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RESTON: NO ELECTION DATE DECIDED AS YET

PY080229 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 7 Sep 82 p 11

[Text] Viedma, Rio Negro -- Interior Minister Llamil Reston yesterday denied reports that general elections would be held on November 15, 1983. The minister did not mention any possible date for elections but said that civilians will take over from the military before March 1984. "There is nothing yet. We still can't tell whether elections will be delayed or brought forward because there is no fixed date yet," he said. Reston spoke to reporters after swearing in the new governor of Rio Negro, Fernando San Juan, at a ceremony here yesterday morning.

Fixing a date for elections, "mainly depends on the country's political circumstances and the internal reorganization of each political prty," he said. "But be confident the country will have a constitutional government by March 1984," he added.

Reston said the government "is worried" about the missing people issue. "We are trying to find a solution together with all sectors in the country, but we are well aware that it will not be easy."

Asked about a possible lifting of the state of siege, decreed on November 6, 1974, the minister said: "There is nothing about that yet, but it will be lifted when the conditions are right." Reston also denied reports that the Interior Ministry is working on an amnesty draft law to pardon "excesses" during the so-called dirty war against subversion.

Asked about threats recently received by some Catholic priests, journalists and members of human rights organizations, Reston said the government "repudiates these regrettable events. Be sure the Interior Ministry is trying to spot the source of the threats and, provided it is found, (the ministry) will take the necessary legal steps," he added.

Granting that the political parties statute "is not perfect," Reston said that it will allow for an excellent reorganization of the parties.

Reston declined to comment on rumours that the Air Force opposes accepting international conditions for the refinancing of the foreign debt and the defreezing of British funds in Argentina. "I will not discuss any issue related to the other two armed forces," said the general.

PERONISTS HOLD MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BIGNONE

PY042220 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1606 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Sep (TELAM) -- At the end of the meeting held by the members of the Justicialist National Council with the president of the nation, notary Deolindo Bittel said that at the meeting with Bignone we came to the conclusion that the possibility of a coup d'etat should be ruled out.

Bittel added that "There can be no thought of postponing the institutionalization of the country. We have, therefore, proposed to the president that the ideal date for calling elections may be November 1983."

He also termed the meeting as highly positive and very frank. Highly important issues were discussed, such as the statute for political parties, the electoral law, the appointment of teachers at the university, the sovereignty over the Malvinas, the papal mediation in the Beagle Channel conflict, the foreign debt and Isabel Peron's situation.

When asked about the president's answer to the suggestion that elections be held at an earlier date, the political leader said that General Bignone has not yet given any answer to this because he has to consult with his military commands, adding that he may or may not share our opinion, but he confirmed and stated with particular emphasis that the government will undoubtedly be handed over in March 1984.

Regarding the subject of wages, Bittel stated that it was also dealt with at the meeting with General Bignone, as well as all questions related to the Argentine foreign debt, for which we stressed our concern.

[Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish at 1432 GMT on 3 September reported that Deolindo Bittel, Nestor Carrasco, Bernardo Montenegro, Herminio Iglesias, Ruben Sarboli, Edgardo Muguia, Rosaura Islas, Blas Carballo and Dardo Iglesias were to attend the meeting with the president.]

PDC LEADERS MEET BIGNONE, DEMAND EARLY ELECTIONS

PY052204 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] Leaders of the Christian Democratic Party yesterday demanded general elections for the first Sunday of July 1983 and an explanation of the role official overseers would play in the parties, according to the political parties' statute, from President Reynaldo Bignone, whom they met for over two hours in his Olivos residence last night. The party's president, Francisco Cerro and Secretaries Carlos Auyero, Martin Dip and Hugo Constanza agreed that they got "no concrete answers from Bignone," who replied that the state of siege would not be lifted "before the problem of the disappeared and detained was resolved."

ALSOGARAY GIVES AIMS OF NEW PARTY, SEEKS MEMBERS

PY061830 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 6 Sep 82 p 5

[Text] Former Economy Minister Alvaro Alsogaray yesterday stated the short-term aims of his New Republican Union political party and asked "young people who are not committed to the past" to join it.

In an advertisement in the daily CLARIN, Alsogaray said he wants to restore the supremacy of civilian power, reorganize Argentina's armed forces "on a professional basis" and bring the military service down from one year to three months. The former minister said he would close "the Malvinas chapter in an honourable way, without affecting our interests."

If his policies are applied, said Alsogaray, the "trader state" will become "an efficient federal state" which will stick to duties such as justice, defence, education and health.

Alsogaray, who together with former Welfare Minister Francisco Manrique is considered one of the most likely presidential candidates for an eventual coalition of centre parties, also said he would stimulate an influx of capital "to increase production exports."

The last point in Alsogaray's short-term programme is "putting an end to inflation, stabilizing currency and defending the 'family basket' (of basic commodities)."

PRESIDENT RECEIVES UPDATE ON FALKLANDS ISSUE

PY070354 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2120 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Sep (CYN) -- It was officially reported today that President Reynaldo Bignone today instructed Argentine Ambassador to the OAS Raul Quijano to seek the inclusion of the issue of sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands in the agenda of the coming OAS General Assembly. Thus, Quijano's mission will be added to the efforts which Argentine representatives to the United Nations are making to include the Malvinas issue in the agenda of the UN meeting that will take place the end of September.

The Argentine president today held a broad discussion of the diplomatic offensive launched by the Argentine Government in the quest for international recognition of its sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands in the course of a meeting with Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari, Foreign Ministry Policy Director General Arnoldo Listre, and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Carlos Muniz.

The high-ranking Foreign Ministry officials made detailed reports on the steps being taken to get the two largest international forums, the United Nations and the OAS, to grant priority status to the consideration of the Malvinas issue. At today's meeting, Bignone requested an evaluation of the results obtained so far through the negotiations launched after the military defeat on 14 June when Puerto Argentino fell into the hands of the British.

Muniz indicated that so far the members of the United Nations appeared to have a "better understanding" of Argentina's position and predicted that in a few more days this organization will decide whether it will tackle the matter at the General Assembly or merely through a special commission.

Meanwhile, Listre reported on the results of his contacts with FRG, French, Italian and Yugoslav officials aimed at improving bilateral relations after the harm caused by the decision of some of these nations to join the economic sanctions which the EEC decreed against Argentina.

According to official information concerning the meeting between Bignone and the foreign minister and the possibility that the president could travel to New York to attend the UN General Assembly, "this possibility is not being contemplated for the time being."

Today's meeting reportedly also discussed OAS Secretary General Alejandro Orfila's proposal to hold at the end of this year or early next year a meeting of presidents of member nations, a meeting during which the Malvinas issue could feature prominently.

Diplomatic Initiative

PY080103 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2012 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Sep (NA) -- Arnoldo Listre, director of foreign policy of the Foreign Ministry, has initiated talks in Rome on the position Italy will adopt over the inclusion of the Malvinas issue in the agenda of the next UN General Assembly. Sources from San Martin Palace reported today that Listre came to Rome from Belgrade, where he discussed the support the nonaligned countries eventually will give the Argentine claim.

The Yugoslav Government already indicated that it will support Buenos Aires' position, the sources said.

Listre began his mission in Paris, where he also reportedly discussed other aspects of the South Atlantic crisis.

It was also reported that San Martin Palace has been preparing a booklet on the reasons substantiating the Argentine claim in the South Atlantic. The publication -- which will have 37 questions and answers on the case -- will be published in English, French and Spanish and will be released during the next UN period of sessions.

UK Official's Comments

PY072225 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1950 GMT 7 Sep 82

[By NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS special correspondent Diana Page]

[Excerpt] Toronto, Canada, 7 Sep (NA) -- British Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Geoffrey Howe asserted here today that the indirect contacts with Argentina regarding the mutual economic sanctions "have made progress up to a certain point." During a press conference, the British Minister stated that "We are anxious that every possible action be taken to improve the prospects for the sound handling of the Argentine economy."

Howe did not mention when some progress was expected, stating that "one cannot foresee a date in which a solution to the problem will be found," but voiced his hope for a prompt solution due to the concern which exists over the Argentine economy, which is the reason for the contacts in Toronto.

In particular, Howe was asked about the role the United States may have played during those contacts, but avoided the question, as did Argentine Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe, who refused to answer whether the United States was involved by simply stating that the contacts were made through the international financial world.

Wehbe pointed out that Argentina would only agree to the lifting of the financial sanctions while the British minister referred to all the economic sanctions. This could be a point of disagreement, and the matter of initiative is crucial. Argentina expects Great Britain to take the first step.

MONCAYO RESIGNS AS CHIEF ADVISER ON BEAGLE

PY072305 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2358 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Sep (TELAM) -- Guillermo Moncayo has said goodbye to Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari as he has resigned from his post as the foreign minister's chief adviser on the dispute with Chile over the southern zone.

The diplomat rendered his resignation, which was accepted according to Resolution 215 of 3 September, and was thanked for his valuable services to the country as the head of the Argentine delegation to the papal mediation. Moncayo also resigned his post as extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH CUBAN OFFICIAL

PY072235 Paris AFP in Spanish 1515 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Sep (AFP) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari received today in his office Irma Sanchez, minister-president of the Cuban State Committee for Technical and Material Supply. The Cuban official heads her country's delegation to the meeting of the joint trade committee being held in Buenos Aires.

Accompanied by Cuban Ambassador Emilio Aragones Navarro, the Cuban minister said that her mission to this country has political implications because it is related to bilateral trade relations, and stressed that these relations must be increased. Argentina must buy from Cuba, she said.

The joint trade committee is charged with drawing up specifications for the agreements signed by the two countries.

PERUVIAN ARMY CHIEF MEETS WITH LEADERS

PY080237 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 7 Sep 82 p 11

[Text] The commander general of the Peruvian Army, Major General Francisco Miranda Vargas, was received yesterday by his Argentine opposite number Lieutenant General Cristino Nicolaides at the start of his official visit to Buenos Aires.

Accompanied by his wife, Miranda Vargas arrived at army headquarters at 9 am where he was met by Nicolaides. Later, the Peruvian army commander-in-chief went on to Plaza San Martin where he paid tribute to the Argentine national hero and later recalled Mariscal Castilla at Plaza Grand Bourg in Palermo Chico. General Miranda Vargas also met Navy Commander-in-Chief Admiral Jorge Isaac Anaya, and Air Force Commander-in-Chief Brigadier Augusto Hughes at their respective headquarters. At 11:30 am he was received at government house by President Reynaldo Bignone and half an hour later met Minister of Defense Julio Martinez Vivot.

JUDGE FORBIDS PRESIDENT'S VOTE APPEAL BROADCAST

PY071710 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 4 Sep 82 p 6

[Excerpt] Porto Alegre -- Disregarding a warning voiced by Electoral Judge Ivo Gabriel da Cunha about the illegality of broadcasting the speech made by President Figueiredo yesterday afternoon at the closing of the PDS [Social Democratic Party] seminar in the legislative assembly, radio stations and television channels aired the president's appeal for votes for the PDS.

When the president landed in Porto Alegre, presidential spokesman Carlos Atila said that the interpretation of the electoral judge was correct. He then added: "The censorship in this case applies to the media, radio and television, not to the president. As any other citizen, he can make speeches in public plazas and grant interviews asking for votes for his party. Radio and television cannot put those requests on the air. The judge's interpretation of the law is correct."

According to Atila, the program "The People and the President" will continue on the air normally because the government understands that the program has no electoral objectives. It is just a program in which the president answers requests from listeners, without campaigning for PDS candidates.

BRIEFS

AIR FORCE APPOINTMENTS -- Brasilia (O GLOBO) -- President Figueiredo yesterday made the following appointments in the air force: Brig Gen Dylson Castello Branco Vercosa, chief of the Aeronautics Information Center (CISA), Gen Luiz Felipe Carneiro de Lacerda Neto, chief of the Research and Development Department (DEPED) in Sao Paulo; Brig Gen Lino Pereira, commander of the Galeao depot; Brig Gen Humberto Zignago Fiuza, chief of the Air Force Materiel Department in Rio de Janeiro; Brig Gen Lima Araujo, chief of the Rio de Janeiro Air Transport Command, Brig Gen Hugo de Oliveira Piva, deputy director of the Sao Jose dos Campos Aerospace Technical Center in Sao Paulo State; Brig Gen Ruy Messias de Mendonca, director of the specialists school at Guaratingueta, Sao Paulo State; Brig Gen Claudio Paixao de Azambuja, chief of staff of the Support General Command in Rio de Janeiro; and Brig Gen Marcio Moreira, deputy director of operations of the Electronic Flight Protection Directorate in Rio de Janeiro. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 10 Aug 82 p 6 PY]

FOREIGN DEBT -- Brasilia -- The Brazilian foreign debt totaled $64.42 billion at the end of the first half of 1982, excluding short term commitments, the Central Bank reported on 27 August. Short and medium-term debts increased by 4.9 percent during this period and by 14.7 percent during the past 12 months. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Aug 82 p 26 PY]

OIL IN ANGOLA -- Joel Reno, president of Petrobras International Inc, [Braspetro], yesterday announced the discovery of three oil wells in Angola at the bloc 2 area where Braspetro has already been pumping 15,000 barrels of oil daily. The three wells yield 5,100 barrels, and one alone yields 2,900 barrels of oil and 8 million cubic feet of gas. [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 25 Aug 82 p 20 PY]

INFLATION IN JULY -- The Getulio Vargas Foundation has reported that inflation in July was on the order of 6.1 percent. Inflation has risen to 99.5 percent in the past 12 months. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Aug 82 p 23 PY]

DIPLOMAT REACTS TO ARGENTINA'S REARMAMENT

PY071821 Paris AFP in Spanish 1550 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Santiago, 6 Sep (AFP) -- It seems that the Argentine rearmament following the Malvinas war is not aimed against Chile, but if it were, it would not be surprising. These remarks were made by Manuel Trucco, Chilean UN ambassador, in an interview published by the Santiago daily LAS ULTIMAS NOTICIAS today. The diplomat said: Argentina broke 15 years of negotiations and resorted to force in its dispute with Great Britain over the islands, thus putting in doubt its devotion to peace, its support of peaceful coexistence and its loyalty to signed commitments. He added, however, that it is doubtful that Argentina would be thinking of another confrontation of this type after the South Atlantic crisis.

Trucco said that perhaps the UN General Assembly is again going to ask for a negotiated solution of the Anglo-Argentine conflict during its session this month, reiterating the terms of the resolution approved by the Security Council when the war broke out last april. Chile, at the end of hostilities and after supporting the exhortation made by the council and condemning the use of force, signed a Latin American request asking that the Malvinas case be included in the UN agenda.

Argentina and Chile have yet to solve a conflict in the Beagle region, in the southern area of the two countries, which is almost 100 years old. Trucco said: This conflict is five or six times longer than the 15 years which caused Argentina to become fed up with its negotiations with Great Britain. However, we have not become fed up with it, considering that Argentina did not recognize an arbitration award and the fact that we have been involved in the papal mediation for quite a few years. In conclusion, the ambassador said: But one must be careful because it is not necessarily the smallest country that gives in. This is why I believe that the use of force must be proscribed and that an international procedure for a mandatory solution must be studied seriously.

PINOCHET BELIEVES IN ECONOMIC REACTIVATION

PY071527 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Relay from government house by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpt] The chief of state has said that the government is going to continue with its efforts aimed at the overall recovery of the country. He made these remarks in an improvised speech during a luncheon given by the downtown Lyons Club in honor of the glorious army. Pinochet said:

[Begin Pinochet recording] (?We believe) that the government I preside over has made the appropriate decision to carry out intensive actions for creating new sources of work so as to reduce unemployment, which has now reached (?23.5 percent). I believe we are going to be successful. We are not going to fully achieve what we want, but we will achieve a large part of it. We have to encourage savings; there is a great deal of indebtedness. This package of measures we are implementing is aimed at creating a reactivation of the country and, God willing, I believe we are going to reactivate the country because we must have faith in it. People should be aware that the efforts are being carried out in a good manner. [end recording]

During the speech to the members of the Lyons Club, Pinochet also said: We are going to promote all the laws which must be created in order for the constitution to become fully suitable for the country. He also assured that the government will continue implementing its programs. In this regard he said:

[Begin Pinochet recording] You can rest assured that the government is going to continue with its programs.

I have the support not only of my army and the other branches of the armed forces which I command, but also of the citizens. Not the bad citizens, but the good ones. I have the support of people who conscienciously support the government, not those who change directions because of fear or at the first problem that arises or those who remain inert in an attitude of hypocrisy waiting to see what is going to happen. I trust that the country is going to move ahead. We are going to continue enforcing our constitution, a constitution which in Article 7, paragraphs 3 and 19, is quite clear with regard to political parties: There are no political parties. [end recording]

ECONOMY MINISTER ON CREDIT NEGOTIATIONS WITH IMF

PY072334 Paris AFP in Spanish 1859 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Toronto, Canada, 7 Sep (AFP) -- Newly appointed Chilean Economy Minister Rolf Luders, who is attending the annual joint meeting of the IMF and World Bank in this city, has given assurances that Chile will make no major change in its economic policy, although it is negotiating a broad line of standby credit with the IMF. Luders maintained that his country is not facing the need to rescheduled the repayment of its debt because Chile has a sound economic policy. He added that during his term he will try to maintain fiscal balance and to increase the balance of trade surplus by increasing exports. He said: That is the only way to keep our economy open and to promote a steady development without inflation.

Concerning Chile's foreign debt, which is approximately $15 billion -- some $3.5 billion falling due over the next 12 months -- Luders contended that his country foresees no difficulties for meeting its financial obligations.

Rolf Luders, who met U.S. Federal Reserve Board Chairman Paul Volcker here, said that he and the U.S. official exchanged information on the Chilean and U.S. monetary policies for the coming months. We asked him, he explained, to appoint an official that we could consult freely on the operation of an independent central bank like the one we will open in Chile. This is a matter in which we have no experience.

Luders also met with Nicolas Ardito Barletta, World Bank vice president for Latin America, and with Hans Wuttke, vice president of the International Financing Corporation (CIF). Ardito Barletta and I made a review of the programs for the agricultural sector and for highway maintenance projects that we want to implement in Chile, while with Wuttke, he went on, we analyzed possibilities for financing private enterprise projects. There are good prospects in both areas, he said.

The Chilean minister stressed that the negotiations with the IMF do not mean that his country is facing financial problems. He said: "We have no fiscal deficit, our $3-billion reserve can cover our imports for 9 months, we have made virtually no use of our quota of Special Drawing Rights (SDR's) in the IMF ($360 million) and we foresee no difficulties in repaying our debts."

The standby agreement being negotiated with the IMF is for 18 months and, along with a line of credit of the compensatory financial grant, it would place $890 million at the disposal of Chile, to be used if necessary. The slump in copper prices will justify to the IMF the compensatory financial grant.

Luders said that although Chile has neither need nor plans for those credits, "negotiating them will cost us nothing and it doesn't hurt having them on hand as security." During these times of uncertainty, he said, it is necessary to be realistic. The IMF support will undoubtedly increase investors' confidence and, in addition, meeting IMF conditions will cost us nothing. Our own economic policy is much more austere and strict than that of the IMF.

BETANCUR, COMMUNISTS DISCUSS POSSIBLE AMNESTY

PA072128 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Bogota -- President Belisario Betancur has announced that he will submit a message to Congress urging that priority be given to the study and approval of an amnesty bill (?reflecting) the various initiatives submitted to the congressional chambers. The head of state made this promise to the Communist Party of Colombia [PCC] Executive Committee, with which he met until late last night in the company of his defense and government ministers.

According to a report released to the press by PCC Secretary General Gilberto Vieira, the president was very receptive toward his party's proposals for an immediate dialogue with the rebels. Mr Betancur reiterated that a peace committee will soon be established. According to him, this is the appropriate forum for all kinds of talks among the various sectors of society.

Mr Vieira went on to assess the meeting as a frank dialogue. He described as unrealistic the defense minister's proposal that the guerrillas turn in their rifles as a demonstration of their desire for peace. Vieira said that the rebels' trust must be won through better demonstrations of peaceful intent.

For his part, Government Minister Rodrigo Escobar Navia announced that this was the first in a series of meetings to be held with the PCC within the framework of a government plan to (?approach) various public opinion sectors in an effort to achieve peace. He added that this is an opening toward new forms of political action within the broad parameters of a state governed by law. Frank, cordial and clear discussions have been held with those who have ideas for solving the Colombian people's difficult situation, the official stressed.

Escobar Navia also said that the composition of the new peace committee has not yet been determined, but he did not dismiss the possibility that PCC representatives might be included.

M-19 GUERRILLAS SURRENDER TO ARMED FORCES

PA051611 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Bogota -- A total of 22 guerrillas, members of the 19 April Movement, M-19, headed by Jaime Bateman Cayon, turned themselves over to the armed forces, it was reported here today. According to the information, the rebels decided to lay down their weapons after hearing the statements by the president of the republic and the national defense minister. The guerrilla's names have not yet been released, but a report from the armed forces command is expected.

The 22 rebels surrendered at Mocoa, Putumayo, Espinal and Ibague, all in Tolima Department, and in Popayan, Cauca Department.

PRESIDENT INSTALLS NATIONAL LABOR, WAGE COUNCILS

PA080051 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Bogota -- The National Labor and Wage Councils, which were installed at 1100 today by President Belisario Betancur, are now continuing their closed-door meeting in the conference room at Narino Palace. Government, business and workers' representatives began their deliberations on the basis of guidelines issued by the president. The president asked them to seek a great tripartite agreement on recommendations that they must present to the government for the solution of the many problems of the country's working class.

The following is the speech that President Betancur made today on installing the Labor and Wage Councils:

[Begin recording] As the president of all Colombians, I hope that this ceremony will be seen as new evidence that we plan to implement the rule of concord, seeking to reach decisions through dialogue and not through intergovernmental monologue, and, above all, that we seek to take advantage of the climate of cooperation in this crisis period so that the task of rebuilding the country socially and economically will be the result of a consensus and not of impositions.

Both the National Labor Council and the National Wage Council, due to their composition, their tasks and the spirit of the legislator who brought about their creation, are organizations in which each sector of the community must set aside what some writers call its schizophrenia, the conceptual and practical division between its social existence and its social conscience. Instead, each sector must work to search for the great solutions that the country desires.

Let me say this in more simple words. The real antagonisms caused by extreme positions should at least become temporary contradictions so that a dialogue that can lead, at the very least, to minimal agreements on the crucial aspects of our social and economic problems can be made possible.

As part of my goal, which I expressed years ago and reiterated at the inauguration of this administration of national unity, I want to confirm to you that I desire a government of participation, open to dialogue, acting within the framework of the Constitution and the laws of the republic, and in which all institutions of economic and social concord will work to benefit the great national majority. This is why the resumption of activities by the National Labor and Wage Councils is significant. They were convoked together on this occasion because of a formality, but they will work separately in fulfillment of Decrees No 2837 of 1960 and No 2210 of 1968.

On more than one occasion, in university forums, at academic events, before political, economic and social leaders and even before continental (?military) leaders, I have maintained that although it is true that there are objective situations of injustice which are a breeding ground for subversion, it is also true that the motives for that subversion must be sought, and that in more than one place the subversive situations preceded the individuals involved. This means that any struggle against subversion is definitely a struggle against underdevelopment and should be directed at making subversion impossible, not be repressing it, but by advancing toward a participatory democracy of equal opportunity and not of privileges. In other words, the peace that Colombia desires and needs is the peace of reconciliation through [word indistinct], it is unarmed peace with justice rather than the peace of repression with injustice.

On behalf of my fellow countrymen, full of hope of your understanding of social justice and of the dangers looming over us, I officially reinstall the National Labor Council and the National Wage Council so that, with your recommendations, you can contribute to the noble and essential task of achieving national awareness of the situation that we are experiencing and of the course that we must take. Thank you very much. [end recording]

BRIEFS

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ANAPO DIRECTOR -- (German Navarrete), A journalist of the Bogota newspaper EL TIEMPO, has accused the National Popular Alliance (ANAPO) of using the government position of ANAPO director Maria Eugenia Rojas de Moreno Diaz to give out housing without down payments to movement members for political purposes. Mrs Moreno Diaz has been appointed manager of the Territorial Credit Institute by President Betancur. The journalist says that people have been promised housing in exchange for membership in ANAPO. [Bogota Emiscras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 26 Aug 82 PA]

FINANCE MINISTER'S RESIGNATION 'EXPANDS' CRISIS

PA080224 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0105 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] Quito, 7 Sep (EFE) -- Ecuadorean Finance Minister Jaime Morillo tendered his resignation today, official sources have announced. This expands the cabinet crisis that began with the resignations of the ministers of public works and social welfare, whose party, the Concentration of Popular Forces (CFP), passed yesterday from collaboration with the government to the opposition.

Morillo is a leader of the Democratic Party, another of the political groups that support the government, but his departure does not imply his party's withdrawal. This takes place at a time when the motion of censure of the natural resources minister, being tried by the opposition for alleged violations of the law and errors in oil policy, is virtually assured.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON FALKLANDS, MIDEAST

PA061946 Quito Voz de Los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Ecuador's Foreign Minister Luis Valencia Rodriguez was in New York to participate in a meeting of the UN commission that combats racial discrimination. We spoke with Dr Valencia not only about the work of this commission, but also about the Malvinas, the Palestine issue and about Ecuador's economic problem.

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr foreign minister, we have been talking about economic matters. I would like to turn to your specific field of action, the diplomatic front. A document signed by 20 Latin American foreign ministers was recently presented at the United Nations. This document requests that the Malvinas case be studied at the next UN General Assembly session. What is the background of this document and what is Ecuador's position on this matter?

[Answer] As a result of the South Atlantic incidents, it became obvious that it is necessary to strengthen Latin American unity. There have been problems in this matter. Not all Latin American countries responded to this emergency as they should have. Besides, it became obvious that the mechanisms established by the UN Charter and the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty did not adequately respond to the situation endured by the continent at that time. In my opinion, this has led to the document that 20 Latin American foreign ministers have sent to the UN secretary general calling for inclusion or the Malvinas subject in the agenda of the forthcoming UN General Assembly session.

[Question] Was this system [of reciprocal assistance] weakened as a result of the Malvinas case?

[Answer] The TIAR functioned effeciently in 19 cases that involved internal confrontations -- aggressions of one American state against another -- but on this 20th occasion, when an extracontinental aggression took place, a void was felt and it became obvious that the system has holes. One of the weaknesses of the inter-American system has been a lack of unity to face an emergency of this nature.

[Question] One last question to take advantage of your visit here at the United Nations where the Palestine issue is being discussed. What is Ecudador's position on this issue, which is being discussed now with more force than ever?

[Answer] In line with and respecting essential principles of its foreign policy, Ecuador has condemned Israel's aggression against Lebanon and requested the immediate withdrawal of all foreign forces in Lebanon. Ecuador believes that the Lebanese, without interference from any foreign power -- regardless of what power that might be -- should solve their own problems. Therefore, we call for the withdrawal [of foreign forces] from a UN member state to allow that state's citizens to freely choose their own destiny. [end recording]

REPORTAGE CONTINUES ON TERRORIST ACTIVITIES

Woman Terrorist Killed

PY080119 Paris AFP in Spanish 0452 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Lima, 5 Sep (AFP) -- It was reported by official sources tonight that terrorist leader Edith Lagos was killed by the police during a confrontation between the civil guard and Shining Path members. It has been learned from police sources that terrorists of the Shining Path organization were taken by surprise by the civil guard in Maca, about 500 km in the southeast Andean area of Peru.

It has been reported from Ayacucho that the sabotage activities of the Shining Path continues. Early this morning, about 30 terrorists attacked the control tower of the Peruvian Airport Corporation, 43 km from Ayacucho, causing material damage to the installations.

Eleven dynamite explosions also took place, causing the destruction of the antennas of the state owned Radio Ayacucho station located in the Libertadores neighborhood. The relay antenna of the microwave station of the National Telecommunications Enterprise of Peru, ENTEL, was also attacked. This antenna suffered an earlier attack this morning by another terrorist attempt to destroy it.

Edith Lagos escaped from the Ayacucho jail 5 months ago when the city was taken by Shining Path members, releasing all the prisoners in the penitentiary. Lagos was considered one of the most dangerous members in the Shining Path leadership. The police said that during the time she was free, she directed several attacks resulting in the death of several civilians and policemen.

Terrorist Leader Arrested

PY072253 Paris AFP in Spanish 0247 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Lima, 6 Sep (AFP) -- Today the Peruvian police announced the arrest of an extremist who was in charge of organizing the terrorist actions in the Department of Puno bordering with Bolivia. According to information received from that department, Lidia Vasquez Zavala was arrested in Ayaviri city, north of Puno, as a result of a combined action of uniformed police and the detectives corps.

In addition, in the same region, the police arrested nine members of a group of terrorists who broke into the Sullocota fund and set it on fire. The sources stated that the arrested terrorists allegedly are the same ones who attacked the Umachiri police station.

Lima Firms Dynamited

PY080031 Paris AFP in Spanish 1750 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Lima, 5 Sep (AFP) -- A group of terrorists armed with submachineguns and revolvers have carried out two dynamite attacks in Lima and assaulted a ranch in Canete, 150 km south of the Peruvian capital, in the last 24 hours, causing serious material damage.

Hooded and well armed subversive elements last night attacked a shop in the Lince commercial district, throwing three explosive devices and causing destruction.

In Miraflores, another group of terrorists threw incendiary bombs in a furniture store on a main avenue of this district, causing a fire which destroyed the shop.

Another 70 armed terrorists assaulted the Atajos ranch in Canete early Saturday morning, destroying its buildings and machinery and causing serious damage. Some people of the area reported that after taking food and other articles from neighboring farms, the attackers fled to a desolate area.

Research Center Destroyed

PY080028 Paris AFP in Spanish 1846 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Lima, 3 Sep (AFP) -- It was learned in this capital today that a terrorist group killed a policeman and destroyed an agricultural research center in Ayacucho in the central-southern Andean region of Peru.

Gen Jorge Monge, civil guard commander of Ayacucho Department, denied that army personnel on leave of absence took part in acts of violence as reported 2 days ago.

The policeman killed by the terrorists was a member of the republican guard. He was killed by several shots while guarding the state electrical company in Huanta, Ayacucho. Also in Huanta, a terrorist commando captured 10 members of the state agricultural research center and destroyed the center with dynamite, thus putting an end to studies for the improvement of grass and guinea pigs.

President Fernando Belaunde reiterated here yesterday that the communications media is unjustly magnifying the terrorist acts by giving them preferential space in its coverage. The president made these remarks during the inauguration of a tile factory. He said that this inauguration should be front page news and not the acts of insane individuals who go around throwing dynamite and breaking windows.

Havana Reports Attacks

PA080253 Havana in Quechua to Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru 2200 GMT 2 Sep 82

[Text] Armed men staged an attack on the town of San Vicente de Canete, near Lima. They hurled dynamite bombs at the provincial council, the police headquarters and even at a bank. Also in the city of Lima, unexploded bombs found at the water supply plant were deactivated. Electric transmission towers were also dynamited.

Peruvian Aeronautics Minister Lt Gen Jose Garcia Calderon indicated that the forces under his control are giving complete support to the police force in the efforts to exterminate the heavily armed guerrillas, who have been most active in Ayacucho.

Peasants Block Panamerican Highway

PY080305 Paris AFP in Spanish 2345 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Lima, 7 Sep (AFP) -- It was reported in this city today that approximately 6,000 peasants have blocked several kilometers of the Panamerican Highway in northern Peru where hundreds of vehicles are now stranded.

The peasants, mostly from the Ohira valley, some 1,100 km north of Lima, are protesting the delay in payment for the cotton they delivered to the state corporation in charge of marketing this commodity. In addition to being used to carry freight and passengers from Piura to other large cities in northern Peru, the Panamerican Highway also serves the trade with Ecuador.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON LOCAL, FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PY071216 Santiago TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 29 Aug 82 Second Section pp 6, 7

[Exclusive undated interview granted by Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella to Jorge Guillermo Llosa in Lima]

[Text] [Question] Mr foreign minister, you have asked the foreign correspondents to be as objective as possible when writing their news reports. What is the reality of the current situation in Peru?

[Answer] Since 28 July, 1980, we have been in a democratic institutionalization process after a 12-year interruption. This effort is meeting the difficulties primarily originating from the long interruption of the Peruvian democratic process, secondly, from the regrettably poor management of the state finances during those 12 years; and, thirdly, from the deterioration of the economic situation of the nation as a result of the world economic crisis. All this has had the ensuing effect that the government plans, as originally drawn up, cannot be carried out fully or with the speed and scheduling intended. In addition, part of the economic program was based on a price structure for our export products which, as a consequence of the world crisis, has fallen to a level lower than we ever thought possible, particularly in the case of minerals. This makes the management of the Peruvian economic situation very difficult. Nevertheless -- and although we have to use the well-known saying that "shared misfortune is the consolation of fools" -- it is known that when the economic situation of the world, the hemisphere and particularly of Latin America is studied, Peru is in second place when it comes to being less well off than all the other Latin American countries.

Despite all these difficulties, a great effort is being made to stop inflation, and although the objective has not been fully attained, at least there has not been any increase. Instead, there is trend toward a slow decrease. In general, despite the economic crisis, the level of investments is much higher than in other countries going through a crisis like ours.

Unemployment is between 30 and 40 percent, counting underemployment. Unemployment, properly speaking is less than 10 percent.

Many things have become possible were "bottlenecks" in the Peruvian economic process in the immediate past. The foreign debt has been reshaped. It was very large during the military regime, when it reached a total of $10 billion, the largest in history. Bascially, it was harsh indebtedness to private banks. The situation has now been turned around and that kind of indebtedness has been reduced and all the loans, particularly those from government to government, have been obtained at low interest rates and with some years of grace. This gives the state some elbow room.

[Question] That takes care of the economic aspect, Mr Foreign Minister. Some time ago, the president said that there is less terrorism in Peru than in other developing countries. Is this still true?

[Answer] I have been in many countries and the daily reports on the death of members of the police forces appear in short notices because they occur so often. I do not wish to name any countries, but recently in a country I saw short paragraphs about four, six or five policemen killed in small print on the back pages. When six guards are killed here, there is a virtual uproar. Of course, in that country there has been violence for decades. To us, those things are news. A charge explodes on a corner and it is said that the Torre Tagle [Foreign Ministry building] was blown up. It is not said that it was a charge, but a bomb, and that the whole office of the minister was blown up. I do wish to say that we are aware that the matter is serious. We are acting with great firmness.

[Question] And, is democracy capable of combatting terrorism?

[Answer] I believe it is. Look, democracy is a very difficult path to follow. You have been here, and you can see how (he refers to the meeting with foreign correspondents) some people believe that we are censuring them. No, we are not censuring them. There is an atmosphere of dialogue. We ask for objectivity. That is what democracy is. One runs the risk of being misinterpreted. You can see how the newspapers are being critical of us every day. It is very difficult to rule this way, but we are convinced that that is better than ruling in a dictatorial way.

In the same way as the foreign journalists have not understood us, we sometimes also ask the Peruvian journalists: "Look here, do not publish this because it will not benefit the country." The journalists are beginning to understand this, even though what they are asked not to publish sometimes might be news. However, they are free to do their own thing. If they do not agree, I ask them to conslut me and I will give them a reply. We are evolving, but it is a slow process. These are the first unsteady steps being tried 2-1/2 years after 12 years of obscurantism, and we are taking them painfully -- I will not say happily -- but with the satisfaction of fulfilling our duty.

[Question] During his recent trip to Chile, Deputy Foreign Minister Llosa said that the friendship between our two peoples should be reaffirmed through concrete deeds. What could these deeds be?

[Answer] The ones that I mentioned at my press conference: the recent mission of the deputy foreign minister in Chile; the arrangement of coordination regarding actions related to the South Pacific and everything that still must be done to bring about the approval of the Law of the Sea convention, and other accords in which the two nations are involved; the stepping up of the construction of the Arica dock which Chile must build for Peru in keeping with Chilean-Peruvian accords.

We have set up channels for coordinated actions regarding possible new rates for the utilization of the Panama Canal, something which can affect the economy of our nations as well as of other Latin American countries in the future. We have submitted notes concerning certain measures which could curtail Peruvian exports to Chile (canned tuna fish and textiles) because of custom tariffs which could be harmful to Peruvian interests. All this has been very well received by President Pinochet himself, although a final answer is yet to come. However, the talks are developing well to prevent Peruvian-Chilean trade from being harmed by the restrictive measures which the Chilean Government is trying to implement.

We have also set up an excellent coordination for future tasks in the Antarctic. Peru is a new member of the Antarctic treaty. There is ongoing coordination between Brazil and Argentina and we are even planning to participate in expeditions of these nations that are already operating in the Antarctic.

We have improved a cultural agreement with Chile. The Chilean and Peruvian positions of subjection to the international law have been reasserted, particularly respect for the treaties, which are the cornerstones of the Peruvian foreign policy.

All these things show that it was a highly fruitful visit which has marked a new and very positive step between two brother countries. I repeat, it was a historic visit. I was the one who had to strengthen relations with Chile. I was able to have those relations held at the highest of levels following the willingness of the two countries and my good relationship with my friend Foreign Minister Rene Rojas. I appreciate him very much. He is a truly outstanding person in the international field.

[Question] What you have stated probably answers the next question. I will put it to you all the same, Mr Foreign Minister: During the Malvinas war, a Buenos Aires-La Paz-Lima axis was said to exist. Is this then a rumor by those who are attempting to antagonize our two countries?

[Answer] As you know, various axes have been said to have existed in the past. That policy of axis was implemented in bygone times, when the current Latin American conscience regarding the need for solidarity did not exist. It was implemented when there were no organizations and treaties such as the Andean Pact, the SELA, the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

In other words, when there were no integration, coordination or cooperation processes that are above and beyond those interests which called for the holding of closer relations between the countries in former times. I believe that fortunately, Latin America is currently in a stage marked by common solidarity.

Now, one has to understand the position each country adopts in the face of concrete events such as the Malvinas episode. I have always understood the Chilean position. It was obvious that Chile was not capable of offering the same solidarity as other countries. However, it acted, I believe, with discretion. Chile did not hesitate in helping Argentina when the latter was in need of aid for evacuating the wounded. I believe that Argentina currently acknowledges this attitude, just as do other Latin American countries.

[Question] You mentioned the Andean Pact. What is your opinion regarding Chile's Absence?

[Answer] The decision to withdraw from the Andean Pact was a sovereign decision of the Chilean Government. We respect the principle of noninterference in the sovereignty and self-determination of people. That is something Chile itself must decide. However, Chile is not absolutely absent because it is participating in the Andres Bello cultural accord. Chile was forced to withdraw because it implemented a policy which was not in keeping with the accord's provisions since it was suited only to its own circumstances. It is a decision which is worthy of being respected. It will have to decide whether this favors Chilean interests or whether it is willing to return to the Andean Pact. We believe that this is an exclusively Chilean decision.

[Question] Mr foreign minister, in your opinion, what is the significance of the southern cone and what course do you think this subregion should follow?

[Answer] I believe that the significance of the southern cone and, above all, of the countries making up the South Pacific commission, lies in the possibilities for future development that the Pacific offers to America in general and to our countries in particular. We are already discussing a bit about future problems concerning the Panama Canal. We should turn toward the Pacific and search for other markets. Asia undoubtedly has an extremely rich potential for a fruitful commercial exchange. Despite the economic crisis, Asian countries continue to develop at a high rate and could buy our raw material. Therefore, I believe that the first task South Pacific countries should undertake is to work in a coordinated way for the pan-Pacific community of tomorrow.

[Question] From that viewpoint, what is the meaning of the ratification of the Law of the Sea convention, which will take place in the near future?

[Answer] I believe it is a great victory for Chile and Peru. It gives universal character to a thesis sustained by Chile and Peru, a thesis which seemed utopian when first proposed and which was met with indulgent smiles from other powerful countries. Relatively small countries like Chile, Peru and Ecuador are proud today that their proposal has turned into a universal thesis.

[Question] Mr foreign minister, you termed "an historical mistake" the U.S. position toward the Malvinas conflict. Now that the conflict is over, what are the consequences of that position in the relations between the United States and Latin America?

[Answer] Well, I believe that, fortunately, there is a positive attitude by the United States aimed at actually strengthening its relations with Latin America in this new stage. A few weeks ago, on the occasion of the Colombian president's inauguration, I talked with U.S. Vice President George Bush in Bogota.

I would say that the only purpose of the meeting was to let President Fernando Belaunde know that the Reagan administration wants to have more fruitful relations with Peru and that it held all peace-seeking efforts Peru made during the Malvinas conflict in high regard. I think this is true. I had a very good impression of Vice President Bush.

[Question] The Malvinas conflict has also revived opinions favoring the replacement of the OAS by an organization of Latin American countries, or OLAS. Is such a step necessary? Is it timely?

[Answer] We are directing our efforts at clearly and precisely defining what could be called the Peruvian position toward the question raised by the Malvinas conflict. But we are now working on two fronts: First, we are working on what we could call the improvement or strengthening of the OAS, of the present inter-American system, in order to make it really efficient. We believe we should try to accomplish that, improving the current system in the light of past experience and recent events. This is an approach that, in our opinion, is worth studying.

Second, there is a need for a Latin American political consultation and coordination organ. This need has arisen from recent experience, especially after the Malvinas conflict, although some thinking had already been devoted to this idea in the past. This organ should permit us to find the Latin American common denominator before attending any international forums with other countries, such as the OAS, the United Nations or any other international meeting where Latin America should have a previously agreed upon voice representing the region. This mechanism is being studied by the foreign ministries and it is another approach we are working on.

[Question] In Chile, an international commentator noted that the failure of the OAS is a failure of the member governments rather than a failure of the system. What do you think of this assessment?

[Answer] I believe that if there is a whole made up of parts, that whole is an assemblage of those parts. That is to say, we cannot blame the OAS because we are its parts. We all make up the organization. What has happened is a reflection of the difference in political, social and economic situations, in stages of industrial development of our countries whose national interests -- which must of necessity guide the foreign policy of each country -- make coordination difficult sometimes, and of the fact that we have not had a forum in which the Latin Americans can search for common denominators. We are now trying to establish that forum. The problem lies in our differences, because we must not think that politically and economically Venezuela is the same as Bolivia or Ecuador. Wherever we cast our eyes, we are different. This makes it difficult to rapidly establish a common front whenever we face a new problem. These differences are a factor, and so we have to work to smooth out such differences. In view of this, we have been sympathetic to the idea of accelerating integration processes such as Aladi [Latin American Integration Association] the Cartagena agreement, coordination processes such as SELA [Latin American Economic System], cooperation processes such as the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and physical interconnections to overcome our mutual isolation. The heart of Latin America where the greatest potential for development exists is isolated. This is why Belaunde has stressed the need to revive old initiatives such as the interconnection among the basins of the Orinoco, Amazonas and River Plate. We believe that one way in which the United States can really assist Latin America is by supporting large multinational projects, not little projects in individual countries. The United States ought to assist us to solve large, crucial problems such as the interconnection of our countries. This way the integration, cooperation and coordination -- and eventually the political integration propounded by our forefathers -- will be facilitated.

[Question] Foreign Minister Rojas Galdames has advanced the initiative to ratify, at the level of foreign ministers within the OAS, the commitment not to resort to force to settle conflicts among our countries. What do you think of this initiative?

[Answer] It is in line with Peru's foreign policy. We have not yet received any formal suggestion or request, but should we receive it, we will welcome it with great interest. We have the same disposition, and the principle is part of our foreign policy.

[Question] Gregorio Alvarez, the president of Uruguay, has also proposed a meeting of Latin American presidents. Do you believe that this meeting is necessary?

[Answer] Various political figures have repeatedly spoken about some kind of high-level meeting. President Betancur himself, in his inaugural speech, went so far as to mention the site where a summit of Latin American presidents could be held. I believe that these are very respectable voices. Our own impression, which is only a personal one so far, is that we should move forward by stages.

If the idea of seeking a Latin American mechanism for political consultation and coordination is to jell as the result of identical thinking in all the foreign ministries -- and we are working on this -- perhaps the first step will be a meeting of foreign ministers. And this mechanism can then be finally polished at a summit of presidents which could be held during the Bolivar bicentennial. This is another scheme on which work has been done and which is in line with the suggestion you mentioned.

[Question] The situation in Central America is very touchy at this time. At the OAS, the situation of Cuba is still pending. How does this affect the Latin American region? How can we look at it as a whole with such diversity of regimes and systems?

[Answer] Well, I referred to a difference that is a trait of the Latin American countries. You bring up a good point. The difference does not refer only to economic and social aspects and to regimes, but also to the various ideologies of different political regimes. But Peru is a country respectful of all systems because we believe in pluralism, in the coinciding of viewpoints on the basis of mutual respect. To the extent that our sovereignty is respected, we are open -- as demonstrated by our foreign policy -- to all countries in the world without exclusion. We believe that this is the line that should be followed.

[Question] Lastly, foreign minister, I want to ask you about the status of relations with Ecuador in the wake of the conflict you had with that brotherly country.

[Answer] Very well. Peru and Ecuador maintain diplomatic relations at the highest level. We are now studying ways to resume joint development projects in the interest of both countries. We highly appreciate President Hurtado for his moderation in conducting his country's political affairs. I have met Foreign Minister Valencia and had cordial talks with him. We only foresee increasingly closer ties between the two countries. Of course, this has to take place at the pace of the economic problems confronting Peru and Ecuador and the consequences of last year's conflicts, consequences which are fading away and being overcome.

HERRERA CAMPINS ON FOREIGN DEBT, TIES WITH CUBA

PA072158 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 2311 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Biweekly news conference with Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins at the Hall of Mirrors in the Miraflores Palace in Caracas -- live]

[Excerpts] [Herrera] I will begin by making a very emphatic statement. Lamentably, after statements made last week by our distinguished friend (Manuel Rafael Rigueres), comptroller general of the republic, about Venezuela's foreign debt, and following the figures that the country's media reported as being given by the comptroller -- although in a television program this morning he denied having given those figures -- there has been a great deal of speculation in the foreign press, particularly in Brazil. Today, in the FRG, the main newspaper in Frankfurt said that Venezuela had a foreign debt of $54 billion and that it had requested a moratorium.

I have always asked Venezuelans, whatever their positions, to be careful in mentioning figures, and the higher their post, the more discreet and prudent they should be, since they could compromise the country's prestige. Here we see the consequences.

Therefore, I say to you clearly and emphatically today that Venezuela does not have a foreign debt of $54 billion and that we have not requested any moratorium. On the contrary, payments on the obligations of Venezuela and its decentralized organizations are being made normally.

I say this for the very purpose of forestalling any alarm or scandal with regard to any information that could be received here from abroad. Having said this, I yield to the invited newsmen.

[Question] Mr President, the comptroller general said that the public debt is more than 145 billion bolivares. Could you tell us the exact amount of the debt?

[Answer] On the first question, because I knew that this is a subject that is on people's minds, I asked the public credit section of the Finance Ministry to prepare a report on the foreign debt as of 30 (?June) 1982. The figures that I received are as follows: long-term foreign debt, 41,945,000,000 bolivares; short-term foreign debt, 37,693,000,000 bolivares, totalling 79,638,000,000.

Long-term internal debt, 25,747,000,000; short-term internal debt, 6,747,000,000. When the total foreign and internal debts are added, they total 111,782,000,000 [figure as heard]. However, I repeat that the obligations generated by this debt have been met normally, both by the central administration of the Venezuelan nation and by its decentralized organizations.

[Question] Mr President, last year, Venezuela's relations with Cuba were very cold. As a result of the position taken by Venezuela in the Falklands war and the subsequent invitation you received to visit Nicaragua, it is being said in Cuba -- and we learned this while attending the Central American Games -- that relations between Venezuela and Cuba will be restored at all levels. What is the current status of those relations?

[Answer] There is what I could call a kind of psychological detente, which could be projected into the political sphere. However, that is as far as this new phase of relations with the Republic of Cuba goes, at this point.

Of course, it is in the interest and to the advantage of any country to keep its relations with all countries with which it has such relations on as cordial a plane as possible.

Do not forget that we have not broken relations with Cuba, though there has been an indisputable cooling off.

WORLD BANK POLICIES CRITICIZED IN TORONTO

PA062246 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0205 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Toronto, 5 Sep (EFE) -- Venezuela affirmed today in Toronto that efforts to establish a new interntional order have failed. It also expressed its alarm over the decreased participation of Latin American and Caribbean countries in World Bank loans.

Maritza Izaguirre, delegate for Venezuela at the Development Committee meeting, spoke today in Toronto, at the annual World Bank and IMF assembly.

The Venezuelan representative also spoke on behalf of Spain, Suriname, Nicaragua, Panama and Mexico.

The Development Committee is meeting with Manuel Ulloa, Peruvian prime minister and economy minister, serving as chairman.

Izaguirre said today that "weakness" exists in the cooperation of the International Development Association, a World Bank institution.

She termed the reduction of credits to Latin America and the Caribbean discouraging and drastic, noting that the decrease was from 31.5 percent in the 1977-81 period to 26.8 percent in 1982.

"We believe these trends and decisions should be promptly revised," the Venezuelan delegate said.

She asked the World Bank for a special policy for the Caribbean countries that are facing an adverse economic situation. Izaguirre also called for cofinancing to make up for the World Bank's lack of resources, and supported the idea of carrying out studies to fulfill this need, "under adequate and acceptable conditions for the borrowers."

Izaguirre supported the suggestion, presented by the Group of 24 (developing countries), that the bank present a complete study on policies for obtaining new resources and granting loans and on the impact of these policies on borrowing countries. She expressed her "disappointment" with the functioning of the Development Committee and the lack of political willingness to heed its recommendations.

Finally, she pointed out that the efforts in Cancun, the impasse in worldwide negotiations, and the failure to establish a new international order make multilateral economic cooperation even more necessary.

FORMER ARMY CHIEF URGES OCCUPATION OF ESSEQUIBO

PA040021 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2358 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Caracas, 2 Sep (EFE) -- Today Retired Gen Arnaldo Castro Hurtado asked the Venezuelan Government to stage a military occupation of the Essequibo territorial strip, as the first step in forcing Guyana to negotiate.

Castro Hurtado, presidential candidate for the rightwing "New Order" group, was commanding general of the army and director of the military intelligence service.

According to this officer, the Venezuelan Government has pursued an erroneous policy in its claims to the jungle area. In the opinion of Castro Hurtado, Guyana can currently reject any legal ruling, refusing to return the 160,000 sq km of territory, which, he affirmed, legally belong to Venezuela.

CIVILIAN HELICOPTER FIRED ON BY GUYANESE ARMY

PA070420 Paris AFP in Spanish 0306 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Caracas, 6 Sep (AFP) -- A Venezuelan civilian helicopter was strafed by the Guyanese military when it was flying a man who was ill from the area of Bochinche, on the Venezuela-Guyanese border, the local INNAC NEWS AGENCY reported tonight.

The incident occurred last week: It was learned that the helicopter, owned by an aeronautical company, was flying a Venezuelan military man who was sick from the border post of Bochinche to receive medical assistance.

On passing over the Guyanese border, the aircraft was fired on by Guyanese Army units, forcing it to land in order to avoid the risk of being shot down.

The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry has taken the matter into its hands, INNAC reported. Both countries mount a very close guard along the 1700-km border, because Venezuela claims the entire western part of Guyana, the Essequibo territory. The two countries are engaged in a bitter diplomatic dispute on ways of resolving the Essequibo issue.

MEXICO URGED NOT TO 'DISTORT' OIL MARKET

PA051259 Paris AFP in Spanish 1552 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Caracas, 4 Sep (AFP) -- Venezuelan Energy Minister Humberto Calderon has said that Venezuela hopes that Mexico will not increase its oil production in an exaggerated manner, in view of the serious economic crisis, and that Mexico will not markedly distort the common natural market.

However, Calderon stressed that Mexico and Venezuela have "a very close relationship" with fluid communication between energy ministers and between directors of the state oil institutions, Pemex and Venezuelan Petroleum, PDVSA.

The two countries are carrying out an energy cooperation agreement that benefits nine nations of Central American and the Caribbean.

The Venezuelan energy minister expressed his concern over the Mexican economic problems and hoped they will be successfully overcome.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCES DROP IN OIL PRODUCTION

PA032232 Vienna OPECNA in Spanish 0331 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] The Venezuelan Energy and Mines Ministry has reported that as of 22 August, oil production averaged 1.74 million barrels a day, which represents a 17.35 percent decline compared to the average of 2.11 million barrels a day produced in 1981.

Exports of oil and refined products also declined this year to an average of 1.44 million barrels per day, compared to the 1.79 million barrels per day exported in 1981.

The government plans to produce an average of 1.82 million barrels a day and to export 1.42 million barrels per day this year.

LOPEZ PORTILLO CALLS FOR SUPPORT, UNDERSTANDING

FL032100 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1818 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- President Lopez Portillo warned today that these will be difficult times during which adjustments, readjustments and modifications will have to be made, since desperate situations call for desperate solutions. The president addressed the members of the Federal District's Superior Court who expressed their support for the president.

Lopez Portillo said that the decisions that have been adopted by the government mark the beginning of a new era for Mexicans. The president, who appealed to all Mexicans to support their fatherland, said that a great understanding was needed.

However, he noted, as always, there will be some who will take advantage of this situation, but that the government will take the necessary steps to avoid this.

Lopez Portillo called on Mexicans to be efficient and honest during these uncertain times. He reasserted that although in the months to come Mexican institutions will have to endure pressures at both the domestic and international levels, there are some national sectors that have already changed their position.

Addresses Support Rally

FL032227 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2005 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Addressing a crowd of some 800,000 people gathered at Constitution Square, President Jose Lopez Portillo said that, now that the people were united, the revolution had resumed its triumphant march forward.

Speaking at the rally of solidarity and support organized in his honor by labor, peasant and popular sectors, President Lopez Portillo said that the road branched off once again; the majority that clamored for justice and demanded national values went down one road while those who wanted to cart off their treasures took the other one. Mexico is here with you. We are united here. The president said that with their work, energy, their justice and freedom values, Mexicans would continue down the road of revolution.

Standing on the presidential balcony of the national palace, he said that Mexico stood together and would move forward with the vitality injected by the popular forces. He thanked peasants, workers and popular forces for the rally of solidarity and support.

BANK ENDS SALE OF FOREIGN CURRENCY, GOLD, SILVER

FL080109 Bridgetown CANA in English 0032 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City, Sep 7, CANA-REUTER -- Mexico's newly nationalised private banks and other credit institutions were ordered not to sell foreign currency, gold or silver from today until further notice.

The Central Bank directive was seen by foreign bankers here as another bid to conserve Mexico's dwindling foreign exchange controls.

Under the monetary reforms only the Central Bank could dictate the supply of dollars to credit institutions, businesses and the general public based on priorities and availability of funds.

But until today there was no firm policy on gold and silver sales.

The Mexican Tourism Ministry today announced a freeze on most hotel, restaurant and travel agency prices for at least the next 8 months in a bid to attract more foreign visitors. A ministry spokesman said the measures, introduced after a series of meetings with hoteliers and trade representatives, were necessary following the government's decision last weekend to fix the exchange rate of the peso at 70 to the dollar.

The exchange controls are aimed at helping Mexico's battered economy recover from the recent flight of capital which has left the country almost bankrupt. The freeze would allow the tourism industry to plan more efficiently for the peak winter season, he said.

Tourism, which brought in more than 1.5 billion dollars to Mexico last year, is one of the country's top dollar earners. The government has launched a campaign to recapture a bigger share of the U.S. market, much of it lost in recent years because of high pre-devaluation prices here.

BUSINESSMEN TO COOPERATE WITH RESERVATIONS

FL061329 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2310 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico, 5 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- The Confederation of National Chambers of Commerce (Concanaco) stated today that its members will keep their investments in the country and will continue to produce and generate income and jobs in Mexico.

Concanaco President Emilio Goicoechea Luna said that the expropriation of private banks represents a structural modification of the Mexican economy and expressed concern because credit resources might be handled selectively and basically benefit the state-controlled sector. He said that he was concerned that those resources might be inefficiently administered or that corrupt individuals might have access to them. He asserted that businessmen would not surrender any freedoms and noted that their struggle would not be in defense of the banks per se but because of the deep significance of being able to choose, of not having to depend on the government, of not having to give up our resources for the state to guard or manage.

WORKERS WARN BUSINESSES AGAINST PROTESTS

PA072117 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Today, labor leaders flatly rejected the position taken by various businesses that have threatened closure in protest of the nationalization of Mexican banks.

Fidel Velasquez, secretary general of the Confederation of Mexican Workers [CTM], has warned disgruntled businessmen not to try to impede presidential decrees, because what has happened to the bankers could also happen to them. After urging the country's private sector to go to work, the CTM leader said that the nationalization of the banks is a permanent measure, just as the nationalization of the country's oil was a permanent step.

Lorenzo Valdepena Machuca, leader of the CTM, accused the businessmen of trying to create unrest, disorder and problems for the federal government. He said that the workers are completely opposed to the private sector's threats of lockouts.

(Antonio Ferkinson), secretary at the foreign affairs office of the Single Union of Nuclear Industry Workers [Sindicato Unico de Trabajadores de la Industria Nuclear], has said that the nationalization of the banks is a step forward in the construction of a more just society, and that it must be followed by other measures to counteract the economic power that rests in the hands of a small, privileged group.

PAREDES THANKS PRESIDENT, GUARD FOR CONFIDENCE

PA071812 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, commander-in-chief of the National Guard, said today that no one must cling to power after his retirement and also asked President Ricardo de la Espriella's administration for more dynamism in perfecting democratization for the 1984 elections. Paredes made this statement while thanking President de la Espriella for his decision to retain him as head of the National Guard. This is what Paredes said:

[Begin recording] We believe that it is very sound for the incumbent chief executive -- because this is part of the republic's life -- to always respect something that is very sacred to us, that is, the internal seniority ranks of the National Guard.

I appreciate and am grateful for having been asked by both the executive and my comrade-in-arms to remain for some prudent time at the head of the institution. I really feel this is necessary. Also, I will publicly and in writing leave my position open to the president with an open date for him to dispose of it as he sees fit. I am leaving it up to the president and the Panamanian people, included among them the 10,000 members of the institution, from now on. It would be in very poor taste if in the future anyone sought to cling to the post of commander in chief after completing his time in service because these people will not allow and will not accept it even if they have to shed some of their blood to remove him from such position.

In concluding, I would like to request that public administration be made dynamic with the greatest possible sweeping changes in activities. It is necessary for us to set the country in motion. It is necessary that the cabinet ministers be seen in their respective sectors giving responses to the many demands and needs of the people, of all of the people in need. It is extremely important for us to continue like this; rallying around the executive branch, around the president and his administration, which is turning out to be a tremendous, very intelligent, dynamic, peace-seeking and unifying administration, much more than we had expected. I hope the administration will not lose this character, this dynamism and effectiveness.

However, the continuation of this will depend fundamentally on the warmth we give to every task ahead and on our setting aside pettiness and tackling and reinforcing the important things required by our homeland today. We must perfect the democratization for 1984. We must make concrete and consolidate the electoral tribunal. At the electoral tribunal we must define some things that cannot be postponed, such as the law on elections. We must make a decision on the adjustment sor amendments to the Constitution in order for it to be more effective and to give solutions to our community, to our 2 million inhabitants.

We need to review the housing law. We need to review and revise the labor code. We need to continue correcting defects and irregularities like those which recently cropped up and which, fortunately, are now in responsible hands, in the hands of impartial and dispassionate justice. [end recording]

Press Conference

PA071833 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Having concluded the message of thanks, and the cabinet having declared a recess, Brig Gen Ruben Dario Paredes talked with the press regarding national life and the topics mentioned in his address today, primarily the amendment of the National Constitution.

Let us listen to what could be called a press conference held on the steps of the Presidential Palace.

[Begin recording] [Paredes] In my opinion, it is crucial for the president to make my resignation effective whenever he feels it is advantageous. I have left it signed with a blank date, and he can fill in the date whenever he wishes.

[Question] In other words, the ceremony would not have to be repeated?

[Answer] It would not have to be repeated.

[Question] General, you spoke of 15 days for the amendment of the Constitution. It is supposed that a commission would have to be formed for this amendment.

[Answer] The committee of notables or Panamanians who would do this has not yet been established. I wished to say that in no more than 15 days they should be seated and amending and reviewing the Constitution, in order to fulfill promises made to the people.

[Question] General, when would that amendment be (?effective)?

[Answer] In 1984. In other words, it would be subject to a plebiscite so that the people can say what they want.

[Question] General, I would like to express a concern. The international and the opposition media have cast doubt on these last 72 hours, saying that it is a kind of show so to speak to justify having you remain in your post. What is your reaction to this?

[Answer] Well, those are opinions that, as a free man, I should respect. I believe that the citizens know me very well. When I say something I keep my word. My feeling was that if the president had wanted me to leave headquarters and if this had been accepted by the General Staff, which represents 10,000 men, you can be sure that today I would be at home.

[Question] Meanwhile, General, have you changed your plans regarding the trip to Japan and to the United States?

[Answer] Yes, the trip to Japan was postponed. The trip to the United States will take place in October, in late October.

[Question] Do you have any specific mission for your trip to the United States?

[Answer] In the United States we have a job to do that particularly concerns perfecting the implementation of the Torrijos-Carter Treaty, in the area of joint defense in the coming years until the year 2,000 and thereafter. We have to clear up some misinterpretations of certain clauses, to discuss the danger that is threatening in the Caribbean and Central America and to be on the alert to see the shock wave does not affect this country, this canal.

[Question] How about your presidential candidacy?
[Answer] What did you say?
[Question] Your much-discussed candidacy. Will that be maintained after you retire?
[Answer] There is no such candidacy.

[Question] You spoke of political adversaries, but you have not indicated that you are a member of any political party.

[Answer] I have a political party, which is Panama.

[Question] Sir, you said there is no candidacy. What does that mean? Could you explain some more?

[Answer] There is no such candidacy. As long as I head the National Guard, I will not speak of a candidacy.

[Question] I said after you retire, sir.

[Answer] When I have retired, the people will decide.

[Question] Don't you think that the support the people have given you now could be an indication that they want you to be president?

[Answer] It is possible. I thank you all and through you I would like to express to the Panamanian people my deep gratitude for this demand that I remain at the head of the armed forces. I will not disappoint them.

[Question] How will it be possible to guarantee respect for the military promotion system if the executive is given the power to ask a commander to retire or to remain. How can this be guaranteed with regard to the 10,000 who are below you?

[Answer] Well, the recent example is a good answer. The executive must consult with the General Staff at the moment involved and, logically, the General Staff will take care to see that the promotion system is not violated. If the consultation takes place, there will never be friction; there will never be clashes. If the executive at the time -- 20 years from now, for example -- brings in a commander from the street or from elsewhere, the organization would reject him. It would be an alien body and the organization would reject him. In fact, even the citizens would reject him. The military career system must be respected, because to us it is something sacred and very delicate. We will be very respectful, but we expect reciprocity.

[Question] In other words, the guarantee would be the promotion system and the good faith of the men who are governing at the time?

[Answer] Right. That is the combination.

[Question] General, what was your immediate reaction when you learned that the National Guard General Staff had recommended to the president that you be retained as commander in chief of the armed forces?

[Answer] Well, as I already said, I felt that I had been given a great distinction by my comrades, particularly my comrades in the General Staff. When I spoke to the troops in Rio Hato a few days ago, on Sunday to be more specific, I also felt very happy because I had been trained by this institution, because I was trained by the National Guard.

[Question] You spoke of consolidation, General. What is the basis of this consolidation of the armed forces and administrative government?

[Answer] Consolidation of the armed forces and the administrative government? Can you not see it? There is a consolidation between the two branches that is needed for a country to move forward in peace, for it to develop with tranquillity. That is the consolidation.

[Question] General Paredes, in view of the things that are being said in the street, would you state once and for all publicly whether or not there is friction among some of the most prominent members of the General Staff.

[Answer] There is no friction. There is no conflict. That is a good question. There are some persons, unfortunately Panamanians, who like to spread rumors because it is to their advantage to have the talks of instability within the armed forces. A rumor that is repeated thousands of times suddenly appears to be true when it is not.

There is no better proof of harmony, of unity, than that which has just been demonstrated by the members of the General Staff publicly, before the entire country, by confirming a commander in his post when his time was about to be up on Saturday. If that is not emphatic proof, then Panamanians want to live on the basis of rumors.

[Question] General, what is your opinion of the Symms Amendment that was recently approved by the U.S. Senate? The amendment empowers the U.S. President to intervene in Latin American countries.

[Answer] We do not agree with that. We do not agree. [end recording]

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT PRAISES NATIONAL GUARD UNITY

PA071914 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 7 Sep 82 p 4

[By Jose Lopez Palma]

[Excerpt] Dr Luis de Leon Arias, president of the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, has told CRITICA that the National Guard's unity and identification was demonstrated yesterday when the Panamanian Armed Forces' General Staff decided to ask President Ricardo de la Espriella to retain Gen Ruben Dario Paredes as commander of that military institution.

Dr de Leon Aireas added that General Paredes is a guarantee for the country's present and future because he has created a climate of peace and trust among the various national sectors, particularly the private sector.

We believe, the assembly president went on, that General Paredes' activities from the day he took charge of the National Guard Command to this day have won him the Panamanian people's trust and have made it possible for him to identify himself further with those people.

MINISTERS ANNOUNCE GOVERNMENT AUSTERITY PLAN

PA031335 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 2 Sep 82 pp 1, 10

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers approved yesterday what it called the "National Work Plan of the Government of President Ricardo de la Espriella." This plan includes; control of public expenditures, strict compliance with established budgets and programs, suspension of unnecessary trips and reduction to a minimum of vehicle purchases.

This plan "will be coupled with a series of economic measures that will guarantee the government's attention in priority areas such as the housing, public works, agricultural and health sectors."

Presidency Minister Gabriel Castro announced the plan and explained that within the framework of priorities, the Council of Ministers had decided to reorganize the housing construction progrmas "in order to adjust them to lower income groups," the maintenance of roads in urban areas and the completion of projects that are already underway. This plan is also intended to encourage agricultural exports "without neglecting the supply for the local market" and promote small businesses, investment and the development of tourism.

Regarding the health sector, he announced the construction of a hospital in the San Miguelito area and "the completion of Colon's maternity-children's hospital as soon as possible."

Another topic discussed at the Council of Ministers was the transportation sector and, aware of the seriousness of the problem, "it granted a period of 15 days for the people responsible for it to come up with immediate solutions."

In 30 days, a work team will have to make recommendations to the government on the best decision concerning participation in such enterprises and projects as the Felipillo sugar mill, Air Panama, Contadora Panama, Marriott Hotel, the new bridge over the Canal and the Miss Universe contest.

COSTA RICA

POLICE DISCOVER PEOPLE'S ARMY LETTER DROP

PA072222 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Excerpt] The metropolitan police have discovered a letter drop near Moravia belonging to the People's Army. In a vacant estate, containing only a sort of shed, a strategically placed box contained correspondence for many people who do not know each other, according to Col (Marcos Munoz), director of the metropolitan police. The box was found and destroyed.

Some 3,000 letters with addresses, and in some cases postmarks, were in the box, some to be sent abroad, while others were to be distributed within the country. It is believed that the distribution was to be handled by the person in charge of the pickup, who was probably notified by some other means, perhaps by telephone.

Thousands of flysheets that were in the box contained insults against the president of the republic and the National Liberation Party [PLN], which is blamed for the country's current situation. The flysheets called for the destruction of the business class and said that over 50 billion colones are being given to the clique of millionaires presently governing Costa Rica who tell the PLN members in government what to do.

Colonel Munoz added that two pistols found in the box, one .38 cal and one .22 cal, were confiscated. Investigations are underway because at the time that the letter drop was discovered, no one could be identified as the administrator or owner of the estate.

MINISTER REGRETS SALVADORAN EXTRADITION REFUSAL

PA032221 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2328 GMT 2 Sep 82

[Excerpt] San Jose, 2 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The Costa Rican Government believes that all legal channels for trying six Nicaraguan prisoners who were freed by a Somozist group and taken to El Salvador, whose authorities have set them free, refusing to extradite them, are now closed. Costa Rican Justice Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez told ACAN-EFE that the Salvadoran court's ruling on the issue is "deplorable."

Costa Rica had asked the Salvadoran Supreme Court to return 11 Nicaraguans, 5 of whom had hijacked a plane belonging to the Honduran Air Services Inc. carrying more than 20 passengers. The hijackers subsequently exchanged these passengers for the six former national guardsmen who were being tried for attacks on the now defunct Radio Noticias del Continente. The Salvadoran court rejected the Costa Rican request and released the six former prisoners, leaving the hijackers to stand trial in San Salvador.

Gutierrez said he regrets "that the Salvadoran authorities, especially the Supreme Court, have not cooperated with the Costa Rican courts to try the 11 Nicaraguans for crimes committed in Costa Rica, letting them go unpunished instead."

Criminal Prosecutor Roberto Steiner, who went to El Salvador twice to negotiate the Nicaraguans' extradition, said that all of the necessary documents had been delivered and all requirements for the extradition had been met; still, it was not obtained.

For his part, the justice minister maintained that after this refusal Costa Rica "cannot insist, because there is no way left to propose a new legal action."

EL SALVADOR

COPREFA DENIES MASSACRE OF 300 PEASANTS

PA080319 Paris AFP in Spanish 0103 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 7 Sep (AFP) -- The Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee [Coprefa] has denied that 300 unarmed peasants were massacred during a military operation staged last week in San Vicente Province, as three women who claimed to be survivors of that massacre have charged.

The official report admits that an operation was held, but states that "250 FMLN guerrillas were killed" during the operation, noting that "the facts have been manipulated by the subversives and by the human rights commission, who seek to distort them."

Three women who escaped that operation with some children claimed that the troops used handgrenades, automatic weapons, aircraft and incendiary bombs "to kill the civilians who lived in that region, which is controlled by the guerrillas." They claimed that none of the guerrillas that were there during the attack were armed and that the victims included elderly persons, women, and children who supported the rebels and lived in that region 90 km from this capital.

ARMED FORCES REPEL GUERRILLA ATTACK ON PERQUIN

PA070340 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1803 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] In the last few hours, the armed forces repelled an attack staged by leftist guerrillas on the security installations in the small town of Perquin Morazan Department. According to military reports, the civil defense members and troops at the military detachment repelled the guerrilla attack without sustaining any casualties. It is unknown whether the attackers suffered any casualties.

The military reports also note that since last week, the subversives have been trying to destroy the bridge linking the towns of Osicala and Meanguera, but have been thwarted by the armed forces, which have control of the area.

ARMY KILLS 60 GUERRILLAS NEAR JUCUARAN

PA070401 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 4 Sep 82 p 1

[Excerpt] Military sources have reported that in intense battles between the armed forces and extremists who were receiving guerrilla training near Jucuaran, Usulutan Department, more than 60 extremists were killed while defending their camps and tunnels, where they had hidden explosives, weapons and ammunition.

The battles took place in the villages of El Salamo and Cerro la Cruz, where combined forces staged an earlier operation that concluded in El Espino. The dead extremists were buried in a common grave, while units pursued the fleeing extremists into a mountainous area.

Some peasants told the armed forces that they had seen groups of extremists pass by carrying their wounded comrades, and that most of them were headed in the direction of La Coyolera, also in the jurisdiction of Jucuaran, where the guerrillas of the southeastern front have clandestine clinics for the treatment of guerrillas wounded in battles in Usulutan Department. They recover there and then return to their respective camps to rejoin the fighting.

GUATEMALA

EGP URGES SOLIDARITY AGAINST U.S. INTERVENTION

PA070442 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] The Poor Peoples Guerrilla Army, EGP, a member of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, has issued an urgent appeal, asking the world's peoples to contribute their solidarity in order to stop Reagan's interventionist plans and to support the Central American peoples in their struggle for peace.

As an example of the real intentions of imperialism, the document released in Guatemala noted the establishment of a military base for Rapid Deployment Forces in Key West, Florida; the establishment of two naval bases and the improvement of three air strips for military use in Honduras; the joint U.S.-Honduran maneuvers, which led to the landing of 600 Marines; the Somozist gangs maintained by the CIA in Honduran territory; and the shameless intervention by the Honduran Army in the repression of the heroic Salvadoran people. The appeal ends by stating that stopping the U.S. military intervention in Central America means, first, putting an end to the genocide being committed against the Salvadoran and Guatemalan peoples; second, enabling the people of Sandino to exercise their right to reconstruct their fatherland in peace; and third, making an effective contribution to the advance of world peace.

Havana Report

PA070425 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] The Guatemalan Poor Peoples Guerrilla Army (EGP) denounced in a communique that the United States is turning Honduras into its base of operations from which to launch a military intervention in Central America and that it has turned sectors of the Honduran Army into the spearhead for its interventionist plans in the area.

After mentioning a series of recent developments, including the U.S. Senate's approval of the Symms Amendment, the EGP recalled that Lt Gen Wallace Nutting, commander of the U.S. Southern Command, stated that his country is called upon to play the same role in Guatemala that it plays in El Salvador. The document added that U.S. intervention in Guatemala is done secretly and that specialists and advisers sent by Washington are kept hidden. It also noted that since the overthrow of the Jacobo Arbenz progressive government in 1954, 90,000 persons have lost their lives in that Central American country.

HONDURAS

NICARAGUAN ENVOY DENIES TERRITORIAL DISPUTE

PA072313 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 7 Sep 82 p 17

[Text] Yesterday Nicaraguan Ambassador Dr Guillermo Suarez Rivas denied reports that his country will request a revision of the treaty under which Honduras obtained territorial rights over Gracias a Dios. "It is absolutely false," the ambassador stressed, "that my government is trying to have that decision, made by the International Court of Justice at The Hague, revised."

He insisted that the National Reconstruction Junta respects all decisions made by international organizations and has no intention of renewing the dispute over Gracias a Dios. According to Suarez Rivas, the reports that Nicaragua would request a reconsideration of this decision undoubtedly orginate with people who are "interested in hurting our government's image."

STUDENTS PROTEST SECURITY FORCES' 'REPRESSION'

PA040356 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 2 Sep 82 p 5

[Text] The School of Medicine at the National Autonomous University of Honduras, UNAH, was seized yesterday by the Honduran Association of Students of Medicine and Surgery, AEMCH, to demand the release of Eduardo Lanza and to condemn the assassination of Felix Martinez, Roberto Pino and Reinaldo Diaz, all students in various schools at the university. From the school-maternity hospital complex, where the medical school operates, they said that they were denouncing the repressive wave unleashed by "the security forces," which have been violating human rights in Honduras.

A communique that was issued states that this repression has turned into an organized plan with the detention of student Eduardo Lanza, who was captured by the Department of National Investigation, DIN, on 21 August; and with the assassination of Felix Martinez, Roberto Pino and Reinaldo Diaz. Lanza is a medical student, while Martinez was a law student, Pino a mechanical engineering student, and Diaz a psychology student.

They added that University Rector Osvaldo Ramos Soto has ignored the university students' clamor for justice and is doing nothing about the people who are missing. On the contrary, they add, "he is demonstrating his complicity with the repressive forces."

Finally, in their communique they demand the prompt release of Eduardo Lanza. According to them, he is currently in agony in a cell, having received no medical attention from the authorities.

TERRORIST SEEKS ASYLUM AT MEXICAN EMBASSY

FL071150 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0526 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 6 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Sandra Nunez, whom the Honduran police say took part in the kidnapping of three Honduran businessmen, took asylum at the Mexican Embassy in this capital, according to local newspaper reports. A court order has been issued against the Honduran woman for her participation in the kidnappings of businessmen (Pau Vinlli), (Herman Eyl) and (Jack Cassanova) by members of the FMLN of El Salvador. The Mexican Embassy is seeking authorization for a safe conduct enabling Sandra Nunez to leave the country for Mexico. The Honduran Foreign Ministry has remained silent on the matter.

AIP ON TORRES' PRESS CONFERENCE IN MEXICO

PA040321 Managua International Service in Spanish 0230 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City (AIP) -- Col Leonidas Torres Arias, the former chief of Honduran Military Intelligence, has charged here that Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, is trying to launch the Honduran people on a criminal and bloody campaign against the Nicaraguan revolution. The senior Honduran military officer said that the current chief of his country's armed forces is turning Honduras into a theatre of operations for a foreign power. This was regarded as an indirect allusion to the United States. Several Mexican news media have stated that Torres Arias' statements reflect a serious split within the Honduran Armed Forces over the warmongering attitude that has been assumed by their commander-in-chief.

Alvarez asserts that his army is waging a war without frontiers against communism. In contrast, a colonel in his army who was head of Military Intelligence until recently has described Alvarez as a mad, obsessed, extremist and repressive adventurer. The conflicts inside the Honduran Armed Forces have reached such unprecedentedly sharp levels and have been subject to so much publicity that Torres Arias made his statements in Mexico. As he put it: I would be killed immediately in my own country.

During a news conference held for dozens of national and foreign newsmen in Mexico, the former Honduran Military Intelligence chief raised serious charges against his superior, General Alvarez. Torres warned against Alvarez' ambitions, noting that Alvarez will drag the Honduran Government and people into dire misfortune unless they thwart his extremist and psychotic plans to physically eliminate and cause the disappearance of those who oppose his ideas.

Torres, who has temporarily established residence in Mexico, said that he is willing to go before his country's Congress to explain the danger posed to peace in the region by Alvarez' tenure as Honduran Armed Forces chief. He said that most Honduran military officers and civilians advocate peace and want Honduras to remain neutral in affairs of its neighbors. He added that only a small group of unconditional followers support Alvarez' aggressive plans and demented actions against those who oppose his ideas. The former chief of military intelligence charged that the Honduran Armed Forces chief has granted himself huge loans from the Honduran Armed Forces Bank, of which he is president, as well as increasing his representational expenses 200 percent. All of this is happening while soldiers with meager economic means are denied small but urgent loans.

Torres urged his country's people and armed forces to stop the army chief's aggressive plans. He also warned that the process of democratization that began with the elections and President Suazo Cordova's accession to power are being endangered by Alvarez' ambitions.

While Torres was raising these charges against his comrade-in-arms and superior, the Mexican daily newspaper EXCELSIOR commented that the internal conflicts of the Honduran Armed Forces can lead to open confrontation between a group of officers and General Alvarez. In a frontpage column, the Mexican newspaper did not rule out the possibility that the officers opposed to Alvarez might oust him from his post.

The Honduran colonel's statements confirm charges raised by several organizations about the threat posed to peace in Central America by the policy that guides the Honduran Armed Forces' actions. Torres Arias said that General Alvarez' fascist stance is leading Honduras into a war from which it will emerge seriously damaged because it does not have the economic or military capability to impose a military decision on another state. Torres said that the aggressive and militaristic policy that is being forced upon the Honduran Army is supported by a small group of officers who are unconditional followers of Alvarez Martinez.

For months now, several Honduran labor organizations have been denouncing the Honduran Army's preparation of aggressive actions against Nicaragua. An unprecedented level of U.S. military support did nothing but confirm the charges. It has been verified that most of the U.S. advisers and the military aid given to Honduras have been concentrated in the area near the Nicaraguan border. For those who could still harbor some doubt, all of these charges have been confirmed by none other than a former chief of military intelligence in the Honduran Army. Colonel Torres Arias was dismissed early this year as chief of military intelligence by General Alvarez Martinez, current chief of the armed forces. And Torres has still more to say. He said that he was withholding further information until such time as the Honduran Government or Congress initiates an investigation into Alvarez' activities.

NICARAGUA

REPORTAGE ON REGIONAL FAO MEETING IN MANAGUA

Delegations Arrive

PA072246 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Edouard Saouma, FAO director general, arrived in Nicaragua yesterday to preside over the 17th regional FAO meeting, which began in Managua today.

Most of the eight agriculture ministers from Latin America and the Caribbean also arrived, as did delegates from international organizations that are participating in the regional conclave, which serves basically as a form of recognition of Nicaragua's efforts in food production and agrarian reform.

Among the arriving dignitaries were (Victor Hugo Santirso), agriculture minister of Argentina; Francisco Morales Hernandez, agriculture minister of Costa Rica; Jose Figueres, former Costa Rican president; Frank Omar Perez, agriculture minister of Panama; Armando Samper, deputy agriculture minister of Colombia; (Basilio Rojas), director of the Sugar Improvement Institute of Mexico; Leopoldo Sandoval, agriculture minister of Guatemala; and (Francisco Molino), director general of the Inter-American Agricultural Cooperation Institute. This morning, Francisco Merino Rabago, Mexican secretary of agriculture, arrived at the head of a large delegation that will also participate in the FAO conference.

Enrique Iglesias, UN deputy secretary general and ECLA executive secretary, made the following statements on his arrival in the country:

[Begin recording] It is very important that this meeting is taking place in this country. It is a demonstration of sympathy for the efforts that are being made in this area. particularly in the agricultural sphere, which has always been very important to this country. I think that it must be very satisfying to you to have the Latin American brothers here to discuss agricultural programs and economic cooperation with you. [end recording]

Ortega's FAO Speech

PA080001 Managua International Service in Spanish 0418 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, at the opening of the 17th Regional FAO Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, held at the Ruben Dario People's Theater in Managua on 7 September 1982 -- recorded]

[Text] Today we welcome FAO Director General Edouard Saouma, Nicaragua's friend, to the land of Dario, Sandino and Carlos Fonseca. We also welcome the ministers, heads of delegations, representatives of international organizations and other foreign guests. We thank them for their vote of confidence in Nicaragua and for holding the 17th Regional FAO Conference for Latin America here.

This meeting is being held at one of the most critical moments experienced by humankind since the 1930's and 1940's. This is in part reflected, on one hand, in the international financial crisis, which suggests that the forms of production and marketing imposed on the world have been exhausted; while on the other hand, instead of facing this reality, which demands a new philosophy that can lead to a rational revamping of the world economic order, we see that political and military tensions are appearing as a prologue to a third world war, which humankind must avoid.

The debts of poor countries already surpass $570 billion and their inability to pay the interest on these debts is the best evidence that the scheme that was imposed has reached its end. This fact alone tells us that the policy of limiting our countries to the production and export of raw materials should not continue. It tells us that it is not fair, logical, rational or economical to use our best lands, credit, technology and our peoples' sweat and sacrifice to produce more coffee, more cotton more sugar and more bananas, which we must sell at continually lower prices. It is not fair, logical, rational or economical to have to buy medicines, machinery, spare parts and supplies at increasingly higher prices. It is not fair, logical, rational or economical that our countries' food production should suffer the irrational patterns of the world market. This irrationality leads us to the absurd extreme of importing food. Therefore the developing countries must use 25 percent of their agricultural exports to purchase food.

It is not fair, logical, rational or economical that we are denied the possibility of processing our raw materials, when the UNCTAD notes that the underdeveloped countries could obtain an extra $27 billion simply by semi-processing 10 of their primary raw materials. It is not fair, logical, rational or economical that foreign investors in the Third World should receive a return profit of $2.40 -- that is a 140 percent profit -- on each $1 invested. It is also not fair or economical that, for 1982 alone, the developing countries that do not export oil will have to pay $107.8 billion in interest on their foreign debt. It is not fair, logical or rational that our people's production and need for food be subjected to political pressure and blackmail. It is not fair, logical or rational that 15 million children die every year because of malnutrition and that 250,000 go blind for the same reason, in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

This ominous and cruel economic picture is the result of a policy that does the impossible to justify and maintain itself, trying to stop the demands for a new order and thus risking mankind's most sacred and vital interests.

Only in this way can one understand the policies of hegemonic powers that reject initiatives intended to avoid the use of force in international affairs, that decline to sign nonaggression pacts and that refuse to discuss a freeze on strategic weapons and the prohibition and elimination of chemical warfare. Only in this way can one understand the hegemonic policy that damages and rocks Latin America in the Malvinas that damages and rocks Africa in Angola and Mozambique and that damages and rocks the entire world in West Beirut.

Nicaragua is a victim of this situation twice over. It is being threatened by international economic injustice on one hand, and it is being attacked, economically and militarily, by those who are trying to impose their hegemonic policy, on the other. Nicaragua -- which, according to ECLA, lost $1 billion as a result of the December 1972 earthquake; which, according to the World Bank, lost more than $2 billion in the last years of the struggle against the tyranny; which, according to an ECLA report, lost $357 million in the recent May floods; a poor country that has lost $3,357,000,000 in its economic and social infrastructure, counting damage to productive activities and to property and the many dead, injured and homeless -- is today a victim of a hegemonic policy that promotes its political isolation and fosters economic attacks upon it. This is a policy that impedes the approval of loans at international organizations; promotes armed attacks, with many dead and wounded as a result; organizes the demolition of bridges, vehicles and work machinery; encourages the destabilization of the country; orders the violation of our territorial waters and airspace; promotes confrontation and war between fraternal nations; and forces hundreds of farmers to leave their fields, thus affecting our people's efforts. However, this punitive attitude fails in facing the extraordinary effort that our revolutionary people make to survive and move ahead amid adversity.

It is in this sense that the agrarian reform, together with the literacy campaign and the health programs, is playing a very important role in the country's reconstruction by promoting the economic, political and social changes demanded by the people. The peasants who were squatters, co-owners and small leaseholders, along with the agricultural cooperatives, have been recovering lands through the agrarian reform program to the degree that having owned 3 percent of the land in 1979 at the time of the revolution's victory, they are now owners of 20 percent of all of this country's arable land. To all of this we must add the policy of prices for producers, the availability of credit, an incentive for exports, a storage and distribution network in rural areas, the creation of popular agricultural storehouses, intermediate storage centers [centros de acopio intermedio], rural retail stores, rural supply centers and an important sector that gives agricultural and livestock producers support in machinery, transportation and supplies for the Nicaraguan peasants. [applause]

In this way we have been able to surpass historical levels in the production of eggs, poultry, pork, beans, sugar, rice and sorghum.

In this effort, the agrarian reform enterprises and the cooperatives, which cover 40 percent of the land and of the country's production -- together with the individual peasants, medium-sized producers and the patriotic businessmen who create the other 60 percent of our agricultural production -- have been a decisive factor in reaching and surpassing the goals that the revolution demanded for this sector.

Nicaragua, a victim of international economic injustice and economic and military attack, is nevertheless determined to move forward and has made extraordinary efforts to restructure its foreign debt and to keep pace in payments to its creditors. Yet Nicaragua must warn, with some concern, that despite all of these efforts to date, the international commercial banks have not resumed granting new loans.

We welcome Mr Saouma, the ministers and heads of delegations, the representatives of international organizations and other foreign guests to Nicaragua. In these times, which are decisive in the struggle to defend Latin America's security and economic independence, we know that this requires, among other things, and as demanded at the recent meeting of SELA ministers at the eighth Latin American Council in Caracas, that we fight against dependence on food imports; that we fight against the use of food as an instrument of pressure; that we give new direction to Latin American trade, in order to increase the interregional exchange of basic food products; and that we take advantage of our potential for production and of other complementary measures.

We feel that political and military detente is linked to the need for a new economic order and that efforts must be concentrated if we are to reach that goal. We feel that the current crisis calls for reflection and that the financial crisis is unbearable and demands an immediate international moratorium. [applause]

A dialogue to promote understanding in all areas is urgently required. This dialogue is needed to keep irrational violence from destroying humankind's hopes. We are aware of the role that the FAO plays in the search for overall peace. We are aware of the substantial contribution that it makes through its programs, technical aid, reports and research in the struggle for development. We are also aware of the great assistance given to the new Nicaragua.

On behalf of our people, welcome and thank you.

ORTEGA ON DIALOGUE WITH U.S.; ELECTIONS

PA062132 Paris AFP in Spanish 1855 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] Managua, 6 Sep (AFP) -- Two weeks ago Nicaragua proposed to the United States that talks on an 8-point U.S. proposal submitted by Washington in April and on a 12-point proposal presented by Nicaragua be initiated, Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, said today. In a statement to reporters during a public appearance in Managua, he added that Nicaragua is absolutely willing to enter a dialogue to alleviate the tensions in the area and, even more important, to improve the tense relations between Washington and Managua.

The eight-point U.S. proposal suggests, as its main condition for the improvement of the two countries' relations, that Nicaraguan aid to the guerrillas in neighboring countries, especially El Salvador, be terminated.

On the other hand, the Nicaraguan proposal emphasizes the need for the United States to stop its "aggression" against Nicaragua, expressed both economically and militarily through Honduras, with the U.S. support of the activities of the former national guardsmen who oppose the Sandinist regime.

On other topics, Ortega offered assurances that when elections are held in the country, the political parties will have full freedom and guarantees of participation; he added that the State Council is drafting a political parties bill. He appeared to imply, however, that the Sandinist regime did not wish to lead the country toward a formal democracy right away, with the possibility that several parties will alternate in power. "We must find a special formula," he noted.

Asked about 1985 as the election year, Ortega pointed out that the elections could be later, should the U.S. "attacks" continue, adding that "we want a totally normal situation in the country so that we may hold the elections under the best possible conditions." The junta coordinator also insisted that the Sandinist regime is not heading toward totalitarianism, "because we have both the fundamental freedoms and a mixed economy here."

REPORTAGE ON SOLIDARITY WITH EL SALVADOR MEETING

First Delegations Arrive

PA042219 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] The first delegations -- from the United States, Peru, Mexico, and Puerto Rico -- have arrived in Managua to participate in the meeting tomorrow of the Executive Secretariat of the World Front for Solidarity With the Salvadoran People. The contingent is made up of Heidi Tarver, national coordinator of the U.S. committee of Solidarity With El Salvador; Andres Fabrega, executive secretary of the World Front for Solidarity With El Salvador; Enrique Colon of Puerto Rico; Bill Zimmerman, president of the U.S. Committee of Solidarity With El Salvador; and Lucia Pavletich of Peru.

The Executive Secretariat will meet in Managua for 2 days to evaluate the work of the (?solidarity) committees [words indistinct] to counter the damaging and false campaign and the struggle being carried out by international news agencies. The meeting will be held at the headquarters of the Nicaraguan Committee of Solidarity With Peoples in Managua.

U.S. Pressure on Mexico Cited

PA052203 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Andreas Fabregas, president of the Executive Secretariat of the World Front for Solidarity With El Salvador, said that the United States is applying economic pressure on the Mexican Government to force it to change its policy toward Central America. Fabregas, who arrived in our country yesterday to participate in a meeting of the World Front for Solidarity With El Salvador, added that U.S. officials visited Mexico in recent months to pressure President Lopez Portillo's government into changing its foreign policy. However, the Mexican Government's reply to Washington's pressures was to nationalize the private banks and to apply control measures on exchange, declaring the use of the dollar as an internal means of payment to be illegal.

D'ESCOTO REITERATES INVITATION TO PAZ BARNICA

PA072214 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto has reiterated his invitation for his Honduran counterpart, Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, to meet and discuss the two countries' problems. Paz Barnica said on Saturday that he could not come to Nicaragua. However, today D'Escoto reiterated his invitation for a meeting, on a date to be chosen by Secretary Paz Barnica.

CUADRA CHOSEN AREA SPOKESMAN AT IBRD MEETING

PA041854 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Nicaragua has become the Latin American spokesman at the World Bank [IBRD]. The fact that the Latin American countries, Spain and the Phillipines chose Nicaraguan Finance Minister Joaquin Cuadra Chamorro as their spokesman before this organization is political recognition of the Nicaraguan revolution and the revolutionary government. The World Bank will hold its annual meeting in Toronto, Canada, from 6 to 7 September.

As spokesman for the previously mentioned countries, Cuadra Chamorro will be in charge of explaining their position on World Rank loan policies. He will analyze the world economic situation and will make proposals for the solution of economic problems. The Nicaraguan delegation will be made up of Cuadra Chamorro and Edmundo Jarquin, director of the international reconstruction fund. They will attend the meeting as governor and alternate governor, respectively.

DEPUTY COMMANDER KILLED IN ACCIDENT IN USSR

PA071537 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] According to Guerrilla Commander Omar Cabezas, official in charge of political affairs of the Interior Ministry, the body of Deputy Commander (Felix Pedor Carrillo Valle) will arrive in Managua tomorrow.

[Carrillo Valle), who was the interior minister's delegate in Leon, was killed in a traffic accident on Sunday while he was travelling from Kiev to Moscow. (Carrillo Valle) was a member of the Nicaraguan delegation visiting the Soviet Union which is headed by Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge, the interior minister. Cabezas has said that the coffin containing (Carrillo Valle's) body will be received with high honors by the top command of the Interior Ministry and the FSLN.

NINE COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES REPORTEDLY KILLED

PA041811 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] The Interior Ministry has reported the death in combat of nine members of a counterrevolutionary band. The incident took place late last month in (Bitamid), in Rio Blanco, Matagalpa. Only the second in command of the band, (Salvador Valdivia), has been identified by name. Five other counterrevolutionaries are known only by aliases, while no identification of any kind is available regarding the other three. A month before, the band associated with (Julio Davila Beltran), alias El Salvaje, had clashed in the same place with combined forces of the Sandinist People's Army, state security and the Sandinist people's militias. There were no casualties on either side. Many of the counterrevolutionaries' weapons were confiscated.

NEWSMEN COMPLAIN ABOUT 'LACK OF COOPERATION'

PA040004 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Newsmen from the various information media are complaining about a lack of cooperation on the part of certain information sources. The Union of Journalists of Nicaragua, UPN, is drafting a document on the problems faced daily by the information professionals. The document will be sent to the various government institutions and to the members of the FSLN National Directorate. It will reflect all of the problems that hinder the newsmen's work, not only in Managua but throughout the country.

MDN LEADERS REJECT SANDINIST ELECTION PLAN

PA060222 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1702 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] San Jose, 6 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The executive council of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN) rejected here today the election plan discussed last week in Managua by two members of the Sandinist Government Junta. The MDN council, composed of Alfonso Robelo, Alvaro Jerez, Roberto Urroz, Cesar Avilez and Fabio Gadea, characterized the Sandinist plan as "a trick to confuse international public opinion."

The MDN recalled that on 23 July 1980, Commander Humberto Ortega said publicly that the 1985 elections will be "for the purpose of improving revolutionary power and not a raffle to see who gets that power."

The Nicaraguan opposition group was referring to the latest statements of junta members Sergio Ramirez and Daniel Ortega. Ramirez said that "the elections systems of other countries will be studied although we personally would like a system where the FSLN would win the elections."

The MDN leaders responded to this saying that the Sandinists "don't have to study any elections system for the FSLN to win since all they have to do is to copy the system Cuba has and they will win." The Nicaraguan opposition has said that "Fidel has found a way to be elected for life."

Regarding Commander Daniel Ortega's statement and his elections offer "if the conditions allow them," Robelo and his fellow council members said that the Sandinist front wants "a system without opposition political parties, with the daily LA PRENSA under an ironclad censorship and without a political parties law that would allow the parties to freely campaign."

Robelo, who was a member of the Nicaraguan Government Junta following the overthrow of Anastasio Somoza, presently lives in exile in Costa Rica, as do most of the other MDN leaders.

The MDN recently announced that it was abandoning the civic and political struggle inside Nicaragua because the circumstances allowed this. [sentence as received] Afterwards, the MDN began to move closer to former Deputy Minister Eden Pastora (Commander Cero) and to his struggle against his former colleagues in the government.

PAPER CRITICIZES EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE

PA031606 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 27 Aug 82 pp 4, 6

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference on 24 August, preceded by introductory "observations" of EL NUEVO DIARIO]

[Text] Much surprise was caused yesterday by the release of a "communique and pastoral exhoration of the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference" on the latest events in Masaya. It contains a number of charges that it does not really substantiate, instead ignoring all of the clarifications that have been issued by various officials of the central government.

The "communique and pastoral exhortation," as the document is called, has been viewed as following the same line of attacks against the revolutionary government and the revolution pursued by clearly politicized sectors both inside and outside the country. Particularly worthy of attention is the fact that similar attacks had been made previously by the episcopal conferences of Costa Rica and Honduras. It should be remembered that these conferences have agreed among themselves to issue opinions on events when the episcopal conference of the nation in which a given or alleged conflict occurs grants its approval to do so.

In the part of the communique dealing with the communications media, the bishops say that the media version of the facts was incomplete and twisted, and they could not use the same channels of communication to defend themselves. As for us, we wish to recall that the reporters of EL NUEVO DIARIO have on many occasions tried very hard to interview either the president or the secretary of the Episcopal Conference in connection with the events that are now the subject of denunciations without being able to obtain statements, even though it is well known that each time any bishop or prelate makes statements they are published textually by us.

Our newspaper was passed over even when the communique was released. The communique was issued on 24 August and was delivered to our editorial offices only last night after being published by other daily newspapers without the observations that we think it deserves, as noted in the introductory paragraph of this report.

Despite the discrimination against us, we publish the full text of the document because of the importance of its signers and because we realize that our readers are interested in knowing what their bishops and pastors say:

To the priests and deacons of our diocese. To religious men and women. To the catechists and delegates of the world. To the brothers of the lay apostolic movements. To the principals, teachers and students of Catholic schools. To all of our beloved parishoners. Grace and peace from our father and our Lord Jesus.

Dear brothers:

In view of our mission of teaching, directing and governing the entire Catholic flock, and because we are conscious that Catholic education is part of the evangelizing mission of the church (Puebla 1031), we the bishops of Nicaragua express our concern and anguish over the latest events.

We cannot remain silent in the face of these events because "the Catholic schools of the clergy are dependent upon the local bishops" (Vatican II, Christus D. 35,4) and "in the event of any difficulty or conflict connected with the Christian nature of the Catholic school, the hierarchical authority may and should intervene." (Catholic Schools, 73).

Consequently, we find ourselves bound to denounce the following:

1. The public slandering and insults against some Catholic education persons and entities.

2. The violation of some Catholic schools by groups alien to them.

3. The complicity, at least passive, of some police authorities and Education Ministry officials in the face of these violations.

4. The abuses against and arrest of some priests who worked in Catholic educational centers.

5. The violent separation of an entire religious community from its work center.

6. The cancellation of the permission to reside in the country and subsequent expulsion of Father Jose Morataya, principal of the Salesian School in Masaya.

7. The intervention, which we view as "camouflaged confiscation," of the same educational center.

We also feel dutybound to lodge a strong protest with the competent authorities because:

A. Their version of the facts was incomplete and twisted and because the same channels of communication were denied for a defense against the charges.

B. Decisions have been adopted unilaterally and without presenting tangible evidence based on exhaustive investigations.

C. Competent church authorities have been bypassed because "the church's educational institutions receive an apostolic mandate from the hierarchy" (Puebla 1035).

D. In a matter of such importance as the intervention of an educational center, "the main and leading educators," who are the parents, have been apparently left out. (G.E. 3) [expansion of reference unknown]

We wish to reassert the following on this occasion:

A. The need for education open to the transcendental values of human beings and above the narrow materialistic ideologies that ignore or deny the existence of God.

B. Our faith in the value of Catholic education because "the church is fully convinced that Catholic schools fulfill an irreplaceable and urgent religious task when they offer an educational program to the men of our times." (The Catholic School, 15)

C. "The right of the church to freely establish and manage schools of any class or grade, at the same time recalling that the exercise of this right greatly contributes to the freedom of conscience, to the protection of parents' rights and to the advance of culture itself." (G.E. 8)

D. The right of parents "freely to choose, according to their conscience, the school for their children." (G.E. 8)

E. "Time and place allowing, the duty of parents to entrust their children to Catholic schools, supporting those schools with all their efforts and collaborating with them for the benefit of their own children." (G.E. 8)

F. Our opposition to "any school monopoly, which is contrary to the natural rights of humans, to progress and the spread of culture, to peaceful coexistence among citizens and to the pluralism prevailing today in many societies." (G.E. 6)

We are convinced that Catholic education has a mjaor, irreplaceable and urgent role to play in the formation of "the new Nicaraguan man."

We cannot imagine the construction of Nicaraguan society without the role that Catholic education is called on to play in that construction, as a concrete answer to the problems, concerns and culture of our people. We are aware that "the disappearance of the Catholic school would mean an immense loss for civilization, for man and for his natural and supernatural destiny." (The Catholic Education, 15)

Finally, in response to what our holy father John Paul II said in his recent apostolic address "Familiaris Consortio" number 40 about "the need to ensure absolutely the right of parents to select an education in agreement with their religious faith," and that "if ideologies contrary to the Christian faith are taught in the schools, the family, together with other families and if possible through some kind of family association, must with all their strength and wisdom help youths not to stray from the faith." We exhort the faithful to fight for the Christian education of their children and encourage all those working in Christian education centers not to be dismayed in their task despite all difficulties, and to bear the trust and certainty that "only the truth will make us free" (JN 8:32) as we follow the path of the only teacher, who is "the way, the truth and the life" (JN. 14:6) for us.

Issued in Managua on 24 August 1982, Feast of Saint Bartholomew the Apostle.

The Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference.

Miguel Obando y Bravo, archbishop of Managua; Julia[illegible] Barni S., bishop of Leon; Salvador Schlaefer, bishop of Bluefields; Pablo A. Vega, bishop of Juigalpa; Carlos Santi, bishop of Matagalpa; Pedro Vilchez, prelate of Jinotega; Leovigildo Lopez, bishop of Granada; Ruben Lopez Ardon, bishop of Esteli; Bosco Vivas Robelo, auciliary bishop of Managua.

MINISTRY REPORTS COLLECTING $81 MILLION IN TAXES

PA070009 Managua International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] The Nicaraguan Ministry of Finance said today that so far this year it has collected the amount of $81 million in direct and indirect taxes.

OPPOSITION PREDICTS OVERTHROW OF JUNTA BEFORE '85

PA032316 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 2 Sep 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] An international dispatch carries the statement by a representative of the treacherous junta in connection with the famous 1985 elections. There can be no doubt that there will be no elections in Nicaragua by 1985 for two reasons: first, because our people are not going to continue to endure the bloody totalitarianism of the nine; and second, because the nine have never actually had any intention of permitting the power that they usurped to be questioned.

This is proven by the statement by the so-called junta member when he offered categorical assurances that it all depends upon the conditions and circumstances and upon the solutions that both the domestic and external sectors may offer to the nation's problems. This simply means that the nine will continue to provoke tense international situations and to repress our people in every possible way, including in the political, social and economic areas. That is why the junta member states that the elections will depend upon existing conditions at the time.

Naturally, such conditions, should the nine still be around by that time, will be cited by the traitors in order to deny this right to our people. There is no doubt that when the time is right, they will invent a number of attacks and take steps to create conditions that can justify their refusal to hold elections.

We are certain that our people will overthrow them long before 1985, just as we are certain that the nine are trying to distract the international public's attention from another deadly objective that they are now plotting. Yesterday they spoke of war, then they attacked the churches; now they are beginning to talk of elections. They are doing all of this to divert the attention of our people and of the international public from their bloody totalitarian designs.

A deception won't work twice; lies will always be discovered. After the great storm that they themselves incited, they are now trying to give the impression that they are in full control. On the one hand, Ramirez speaks of the political parties law designed and debated by a State Council that is controlled by them, while on the other, the member of the junta of traitors refers to elections that are to be subjected to their own somber conditions and, to conclude these fallacies, he refers to the "dialogue" with the Catholic Church hierarchy to give the impression that the nine have had nothing to do with the murders and scandals perpetrated against Catholics and the faithful of other churches.

This entire farce is over. Our people are now aware. Our people know. Our people are not blind. The truly blind are the nine, who continue to believe that they can deceive and lie indefinitely. There will be no elections because the nine will be overthrown by the people of Nicaragua!

BRIEFS

STUDENTS IN SOVIET UNION -- According to Jacinto Suarez, Nicaraguan ambassador to the Soviet Union, 700 Nicaraguan students are currently pursuing various scientific and technological careers in the USSR. This is part of the valuable cooperation the Soviet Union gives to Nicaragua without conditions, he said. [Managua International Service in Spanish 0230 GMT 3 Sep 82 PA]

ITALIAN DONATION -- The Italian Government recently sent Nicaragua a shipment of medicines worth $35,000 to be used to aid the victims of the floods in May. [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 Sep 82 PA]

BANK BLAMES U.S. IN PART FOR FINANCIAL PROBLEMS

PA040431 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Cuba has asked that its foreign debt be renegotiated in freely convertible currency, and to this end has requested that the installment payments due from 1982 to 1985 be deferred for settlement in 10 years, with a 3-year grace period.

A telex from the National Bank of Cuba addressed to international credit institutions with whom the government has credit states that Cuba will continue to pay the interest on the total debt and notes that short-term credits and deposits will not be included in the renegotiation.

The National Bank of Cuba mentions some of the factors that prompted this request, including the exaggerated hike in interest rates imposed by the current U.S. Government, the increasingly difficult terms for obtaining foreign credit, the drop in the demand for our basic export products and the continued increase in the price of import products.

After pointing out that the world economic crisis has also affected Cuba, the note from our highest financial institution adds that the United States has intensified its blockade, which has caused our country to lose over $9 billion. The low price of sugar, Cuba's primary export product, and the impossibility of obtaining medium-range loans are also mentioned as determining factors that have resulted from U.S. pressure.

The National Bank of Cuba has also issued a study in which it states that despite these difficulties, the island's economy is solid, having maintained constant growth, and that its development does not depend on relations with the capitalist world. The development of our national economy, the document notes, is guaranteed by Cuba's economic relations with CEMA member-countries and, above all else, by the investments and cooperation from the Soviet Union.

HAVANA COMMENTARY LAUDS LOPEZ PORTILLO SPEECH

PA041448 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 3 Sep 82

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] On Wednesday, Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo delivered his sixth and final state of the nation report. During that televised speech he spoke of the most pressing problems that affect the region.

The main subject of Lopez Portillo's report to the Mexican nation was the extremely dangerous situation created in Central America and the Caribbean by the U.S. Government's aggressive and arrogant policy. The Mexican president reiterated his proposals to facilitate a political solution to the conflicts in the area and said that no one will be able to reproach Mexico for not having done everything possible to avoid a cataclysm.

During his last annual speech to the nation, Lopez Portillo made special mention of Nicaragua, Cuba and El Salvador, three of the Central American and Caribbean countries which are caught up in serious international problems brought about by U.S. threats and aggression.

In reference to Nicaragua, the Mexican president said that Mexico supports Nicaragua for better or worse and that today, when that Central American country suffered the incomprehension and the unpunished abuse of force, Mexico asks that Nicaragua be allowed to solve its own problems and that it not be burdened further with economic pressures or threatened with artificial armed interventions.

President Lopez Portillo then rejected the isolation that the Washington government wants to impose on Cuba at all costs.

He rejected the threats and ostracism and the fact that it does not accept a reality that has existed for 23 years which does not correspond with the beautiful tradition of freedom and tolerance of the people of the United States.

Regarding El Salvador, Lopez Portillo reiterated the French-Mexican proposal for a peaceful solution through negotiations with all the representative sectors of that Central American country. If there are no negotiations, Lopez Portillo stressed, soon, very soon, there could be a regionalization of the conflict.

The Mexican president also made a realistic analysis of his country's relations with the United States. He called these relations the cornerstone of Mexican foreign relations. This is a matter of fact and not of preferences or whims; nevertheless, good relations with the United States cannot exist unless they are based, first of all, on respect, President Lopez Portillo stated.

The U.S. Government's imperialist policy provokes many conflicts in Central America, the Caribbean and throughout Latin America. But, perhaps, these conflicts have never been as serious as they are now, when the government of President Ronald Reagan stubbornly tries to solve through force, and to its advantage, the problems it has created with its arrogance.

Common sense and political realism, and not arrogance and a policy of force, must prevail in the actions of those who for circumstancial reasons have it in their power to lead the world to disaster.

Therefore, the Mexican president's remarks are of special importance, so that peaceful negotiations are used to solve the obviously serious problems in Central America and the Caribbean. These remarks have been favorably received by the Governments of Cuba and Nicaragua and by the revolutionary forces of El Salvador.

The roads to peace are open. If they were to be definitely closed, only the Washington government, would be responsible for this crime that could have unpredictable consequences.

U.S. DIPLOMAT'S CRITICISM OF U.S. POLICY CITED

FL061111 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] U.S. policy toward Cuba in the the last 20 years has been plagued by error, incoherence and confusion, Wayne Smith has said in Washington. Up to a month ago, Smith had headed the U.S. interest in Havana.

The U.S. diplomat asserts that the confrontation policy followed by several administrations has led the United States into endless, spiralling tension and violence. In an article published by the prestigious FOREIGN POLICY REVIEW, Wayne Smith asserts that the presumed evidence that the Reagan administration claimed it possessed on the also presumed Cuban military assistance to Salvadoran guerrillas was never solid and was based on very vague reports and even obvious forgeries. If the Salvadoran guerrillas has received the amount of weapons that the U.S. intelligence services say they have detected, Smith adds, the Salvadoran Army would have been at a 20 to 1 disadvantage in terms of arms.

In his article titled "Short-Sighted Diplomacy," Smith accuses the Reagan administration of having rejected all Cuban initiatives to find a political solution in Central America. On three occasions, I sent messages to my government reporting on the express wishes of the Cuban authorities to discuss the situation in Central America with the United States, but the State Department did not reply to any of my messages.

Smith believes that U.S. policy toward Cuba must be predicted on dialogue, and all dialogue, he adds, must be based on reciprocity.

U.S. ACCUSED OF TRYING TO USE HAITI AS 'PAWN'

PA062014 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Sep 82

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] The current U.S. Government has added no new essential elements to its policy on Central America and the Caribbean. Throughout the history of imperialism, the United States has always imposed on the people of our continent the same principles based on pressures, blackmail and force, changing only some formulas and methods to conform to certain historic positions. In the hard-nosed policy which the U.S. Government imposes on all democratic and liberal governments that refuse to unconditionally align themselves with its positions, Ronald Reagan is attempting to return to the big stick policy of the early part of the century. The differences stem from his attempt to apply this anachronistic formula in the 1980's, at a time when the U.S. economy is affected by a serious crisis, and when a new Latin Americanist consciousness is awakening and national and social liberation movements are developing.

Within this context, the United States provides important economic, political and military aid to the most repressive tyrannies of Latin American and the Caribbean, including that of Jean Claude Duvalier in Haiti. The aggressive policy of the White House's present occupant was expressed in that Antillian country through increased repression and renewed Duvalier terrorism, following a brief period of apparent respect for human rights. U.S. imperialism intends to turn Haiti into a strategic pawn of its struggle against Cuba, Nicaragua, Grenada and other Central American and Caribbean countries.

At this time, Washington controls Haiti's foreign policy and exercises an unrestricted domination over that country's public administration and national economy by the appointment of a U.S. expert in each ministry for the purpose of trying to remedy the inefficiency and corruption of the rulers of Port-au-Prince. Today, as in the past, many transnational firms, mostly from the United States, are plundering the nation's natural resources.

The United States advances plans to instal a Yankee naval base in Haiti. In that regard, there are negotiations for the purchase of a large tract in the northern Haiti for $600 million for the installation of U.S. military bases. Besides, Haiti will virtually become a Yankee garbage dump if an agreement is reached to grant part of its territory to receive U.S. toxic waste.

The future, however, offers somber perspectives for the Yankee imperialists and their puppets. The Haitian people have gained experience in the past few years. The political struggle reappeared in that Caribbean country which now has new democratic parties as well as new progressive and revolutionary organizations. Sounder than expected, the progressive and democratic forces of Haiti, those in the country as well as those in exile, will achieve their unity in a broad anti-imperialist and anti-Duvalier front. They will unite against U.S. occupation and for the country's independence.

DELEGATION IN SYRIA SIGNS JOINT COMMUNIQUE

FL061200 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1148 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] A delegation of the People's Government National Assembly of Cuba led by Assembly President Flavio Bravo Pardo has concluded an official 9-day visit to Syria. The communique signed by Syrian and Cuban parliamentarians at the conclusion of the visit states that the two sides examined circumstances and issues affecting the Middle East today, including the Zionist aggression with U.S. support against Lebanon, and Washington's aggressiveness toward Central America and the Caribbean.

Cuba, the communique adds, supports the struggle of Syria and other countries against U.S.-Israel collusion in the region. After characterizing Zionist actions against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples as crimes against humanity, the Syrian-Cuban communique demands the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops.

OFFICIAL SIGNS HEALTH PROTOCOL IN MOSCOW

FL071444 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1417 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] The protocol for scientific-technical, public health and medical sciences cooperation between Cuba and the Soviet Union for 1982-85 was signed today in Moscow. The protocol was signed by Sergio del Valle, member of the Politburo and minister of public health, and Sergey P. Burenkov, his Soviet counterpart.

Present at the signing were members of the Cuban Ministry of Public Health, Cuban Ambassador to the USSR Rene Anillo, and other Cuban officials, as well as Soviet representatives to the bilateral talks.

Minister Sergio del Valle highlighted the importance of the protocol for the development of cooperation between the two countries' health ministries, which analyzed in depth the protocol's various aspects.

Del Valle declared Cuba's firm determination to endeavor to fufill the agreements provided for in the public health protocol. Speaking after the document was signed, Del Valle expressed the appreciation of the Cuban party and Government for the great help the Soviet Union is providing in the area of health.

For his part, Soviet Minister Burenkov reasserted the importance of the protocol and highlighted the diversity of the tasks to be carried out jointly by the two ministries in the 1982-85 period, some of which have already begun. Our cooperation, he added, will help improve medical care and health among the population in the two countries.

DEATH OF BRIG GEN VENANCIO RIVAS REPORTED

FL041743 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, has attended the funeral services for Brig Gen Venancio Rivas Perez, whose remains were interred in the Revolutionary Armed Forces mausoleum at the Colon Cemetery. Others accompanying the family of the late general were Comdr of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes, member of the Politburo and minister of the interior, and Vilma Espin and Antonio Perez Herrero, alternate members of the Politburo.

The funeral oration was delivered by Div Gen Joaquin Quinta Solas, member of the party's Central Committee and chief of the Eastern Army.

FOREIGN MINISTER GOES TO PHILIPPINES, JAPAN

FL071025 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has left for Manila on an official visit to the Republic of Philippines at the invitation of Foreign Minister Carlos P. Romulo. After concluding his visit to the Philippines, the Cuban foreign minister will go on to Tokyo at the invitation of Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshio Sakurauchi.

DOMINICA

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH VENEZUELA

FL031945 Bridgetown CANA in English 1900 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Roseau, Dominica, Sep 3, CANA -- Venezuela today concluded a number of agreements with the Dominica Government under which the island is to receive assistance for road rehabilitation, housing and health. A six-member delegation from the oil-rich South American country, headed by Amry Touron, director of international co-operation, today held talks here with Acting Prime Minister [Henry] Dyer and cabinet officials on the assitance programme.

Acting Prime Minister Dyer said that the association given by Venezuela at this time and the anticipated visit of other Caracas officials "is another sign of continued co-operation between the two countries. I am happy they have responded to our request," he added. The Venezuelans leave today.

GUYANA

VENEZUELAN REJECTION OF INITIATIVE 'NO SURPRISE'

PA312343 Paris AFP in Spanish 1429 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Georgetown, 31 Aug (AFP) -- Guyana has refused to comment on Venezuela's official refusal today to submit its territorial dispute to the International Court of Justice at The Hague. Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson, when questioned about the issue in Georgetown, replied that "there is nothing to say." On Monday, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano delivered the Venezuelan Government's reply to the Guyanese initiative seeking to bring the issue before the International Court.

It was learned today that President Forbes Burnham, Foreign Minister Jackson and the president's principal advisers were analyzing Venezuela's reply. It was noted that there is complete secrecy on the subject in government circles. In any case, Venezuela's reply caused no surprise in Georgetown, it was concluded.

URUGUAY

CREATION OF FOURTH POLITICAL PARTY ANNOUNCED

PY072330 Paris AFP in Spanish 0217 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Montevideo, 3 Sep (AFP) -- (Ret) Col Nestor Bolentini, member of the Council of State and former interior minister, today announced the creation of a fourth political party in Uruguay, "whose only goal will be the strengthening of a stable democratic regime." Bolentini has advocated the creation of the Patriotic Union for the Salvation of Democracy which many have referred to as the Process' Party. Bolentini said that the new party will try to achieve national unity with the help of the traditional Colorado (liberal) and Blanco (conservative) parties.

Talking to reporters, he gave assurances that the new party has been created in response to the people's feelings in the face of the considerable divisions existing within the ranks of the two larger parties. He said that the main concern of the Patriotic Union Party will center around the general elections to be held in 1984. This will be the last action scheduled in the program of the current transition government headed by (Ret) Lt Gen Gregorio Alvarez. The three parties recognized by the recently approved organic law (Blanco, Civic Union and Colorado Parties) will hold internal elections in November 1982, to fill leadership posts.